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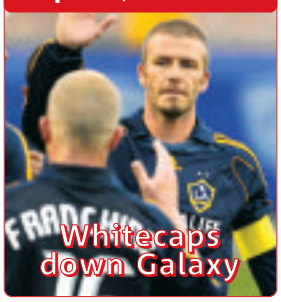
sports p.14



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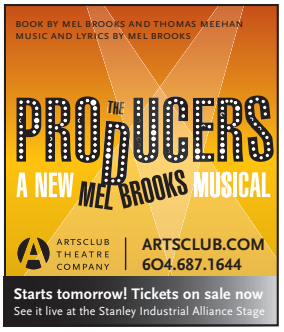
Wednesday, May 14, 2008 metronews.ca Vancouver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UFV students to give blood

B.C. group in China hopes to aid in disaster

By **KRISTEN THOMPSON**
Metro Vancouver

A group of Lower Mainland kinesiology students caught in a massive earthquake in China are giving blood today to contribute to the relief effort.

Chris Bertram, a professor at the University College of the Fraser Valley (UFV) who is chaperoning the students, said, "sitting and waiting isn't helping anyone."

"My hope is that contributing to the relief effort will give us a sense of power in a situation that has led us all to feel quite powerless," he wrote in a blog posted on the school's website.

Bertram had just arrived in Chengdu with 10 students for a summer semester program at Sichuan Normal University when a 7.9-magnitude earthquake struck the area on Monday.

As many as 12,000 people have died.

Bertram said the students are on edge because of tremors, which have had them bolting outside every few hours.

They've devised a system to foreshadow aftershocks by placing glasses of water around the room and watching for ripples.

"It has become a bit of a joke among us now how much time we spend staring at water," he said.

Greg Anderson, head of kinesiology and physical education at UFV, said the Chengdu campus hopes to resume classes today.

"We've had nobody that really wants to come home. They're still excited about gaining the experience," Anderson said.

"Should they want to come home we would arrange that for them."

MORE COVERAGE, PAGES 4 AND 10.

celeb buzz p.30

canada p.8

Helicopter crash kills four in Cranbrook

music p.28

Tokyo Police Club head Exclaim!

Please recycle

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

An affair to remember

Kas Pavanantharajh, 19, left, Ashley Kroening, 25, centre and Dennis Ryan, 26, pose at Robson and Burrard streets to raise awareness about cancers below the waist. The B.C. Cancer Foundation's Underwear Affair race on July 12 helps fight colorectal, bladder, prostate and ovarian cancers. Story, page 3.

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

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local

Vancouver's historic City Hall requires extensive seismic upgrades. Mayor Sam Sullivan said the city would be better off with a new building.
METRO VANCOUVER

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION weekdays at 6 | Citytv

Uncovering a million?

Underwear race setting goals high for cancer's cure

By **DONNA NG**
for Metro Vancouver

It was cold and rainy but volunteers clad in 90s workout clothes and underwear on the outside still busted out their best moves on the corners of Burrard and Robson streets to raise awareness of the B.C. Cancer Foundation's Underwear Affair, yesterday.

The five-kilometre walk or 10-kilometre run, happening on July 12, in Vancouver, will bring together about 1,500 people to raise funds and awareness for cancers "below the waist," which include prostate, ovarian and cervical cancers.

Lisa Luongo, 42, whose mother was previously diagnosed with colorectal cancer twice, explains that below the waist cancers are hard to talk about because they cause some people to feel embarrassed.

"It's a very hush-hush subject, " said Luongo, who has already raised more than $1,000 for the run. "We have to show kids and others that it's not a bad thing to talk about because it can help people live long and healthy lives."

Last year, the Underwear Affair raised $650,000 but Nick Locke, Interim CEO of the B.C. Cancer Foundation said he's hoping to hit the $1 million mark at this summer's event.

City to fund fireworks

By **JEFF HODSON**
Metro Vancouver

The skies over Burrard Inlet will sizzle this summer as Vancouver's city council voted yesterday to support and partially fund Canada Day fireworks.

Vancouver approved a $10,000 grant to help fund the pyro-musical display and will spend $43,000 in additional police, engineering and parks services.

"Fireworks are really cool," said John Clark, chair of the Burrard Inlet Fireworks Society. "It's the end of the birthday party when the cake comes out and there are sparklers on it."

Last year, the 20-minute display was staged in Burrard Inlet from a pair of barges, one in Coal Harbour off Canada Place and one off Ambleside Beach. It was the first time that Canada Day fireworks had been staged in three years. After a serious stabbing in 2003.

–jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

»news In Brief

» **BEACHES** Vancouver is officially opening 10 beaches this Saturday, along with outdoor pools, news1130.com reports. Lifeguards will be working at beaches stretching from Spanish Banks to English Bay.

» **COURT** The man accused in the Taco Del Mar bombing on West Broadway was in court yesterday for an arraignment hearing, news1130.com reports. Kamaljeet Singh Josan, 31, faces charges connected to the blast.

» **WEAPON** Coquitlam police arrested two men with counterfeit money and a weapon yesterday.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Vancouver street banners unveiled

About 800 banners were unveiled at Vancouver City Hall yesterday, created by internationally recognized Vancouver artist Bratsa Bonifacho.

The banners, which will ripple along Burrard and Georgia streets, including the two bridges, have been honouring Vancouver's finest artists for half a century.

This year's banners will mark the anniversary of Vancouver's Summer Annual City Banner Program that dates back to 1958.

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Bratsa Bonifacho unveils new banner designs at City Hall yesterday. The banners will be displayed on 800 city light poles.

Bonifacho said that his work essentially expresses non-verbal thoughts and emotions abstractly through the use of colour and shape. .
DONNA NG/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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The City of Vancouver is offering free emergency preparedness sessions to teach residents how to be ready for any type of disaster. Sessions will be held at six community centres. METRO VANCOUVER

Aid for China mobilizes

HSBC accepting donations; rescue team on standby

By **KRISTEN THOMPSON**
Metro Vancouver

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

James Chu, vice-president of the Chinese Benevolent Association, at the organization's headquarters in Chinatown yesterday. Chinese community leaders met last night to discuss aid options.

Several Lower Mainland organizations, both in the Chinese community and beyond, finalized plans yesterday to send aid to China after it was hit by a deadly earthquake.

James Chu, vice-president of the Chinese Benevolent Association, said lunchtime and evening meetings were held to discuss how to collect donations, which will likely go to the Red Cross.

"Every branch of the Hong Kong Shanghai Bank (HSBC) in the Lower Mainland is also accepting donations," he said.

John Wong, vice-president of the association, added that Vancouverites of all ethnic backgrounds have expressed interest in donating money.

Vancouver Fire and Rescue Capt. Gabe Roder said the Vancouver Urban Search and Rescue Team is on standby.

"All we need is for the governments to say they need us and our crews would be mobilized."

He said 54 city employees, including firefighters, would be deployed.

"They've got equipment they utilize for rescue and extrication and medical stabilization. They also have water-making facilities and emergency apparatus equipment on top of our extensive equipment for shoring."

Roder added that the firefighters would be replaced so local fire halls aren't left short-staffed.

"We wouldn't compromise our own services here for anything."

–kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

Blog chronicling quake aftermath

Chris Bertram, professor of kinesiology at the University College of the Fraser Valley, and 10 students were caught in Monday's earthquake in China. All escaped unharmed.

They were at Sichuan Normal University on a summer semester program. Bertram is keeping a blog on UCFV's website chronicling the aftermath.

◗ May 12, day of earthquake

"We had to scramble out of the room while the ceiling was crumbling down, and then … onto a sports field where we stood or fell while the ground bounced us around. The scene in that field was more surreal than anything I have ever seen."

◗ May 13, early morning

"The night has mercifully come to an end. We spent (it) outside … until the rain came, at which point we headed into the lobby. That shelter lasted about three minutes until an aftershock sent everyone rushing back outside."

◗ May 13, day

"The students are catching a bit of sleep … but it's hard when we keep getting rocked and have to run down the stairs. Even when it isn't rocking you have delusions that it is and that wakes you up too."

◗ May 13, evening:

"Most of the green space(s) … have become makeshift tent cities. Some people have tarps but most are making shelters from anything that is available, including bunches of umbrellas. It is becoming clear that we were relatively lucky compared to people even 20 minutes from here."

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

»news In Brief

» **SAFETY** Education Minister Shirley Bond denied the provincial government is moving too slowly to protect children from earthquakes, cknw.com reports. Bond was under fire in the legislature yesterday for the slow pace of seismic upgrades, with 13 projects having been completed three years after the government committed to fast track more than 80 schools.

» **TRAVEL** Mayor Sam Sullivan said the earthquake in China won't keep him from travelling to Hong Kong this week, where he will study, among other things, its transit and social systems, cknw.com reports. He is leading a delegation of 40 business people organized by the Vancouver Board of Trade.

» **COURT** A Victoria police officer who helped tie up an intoxicated teenager defended his actions in court, CBC News Online reports. Willow Kinloch, 18, is suing Victoria police for tying her up in a cell for three hours. Const. Ryan O'Neil said the teen was out of control.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Immigrant population down: StatsCan

Employment rate increases slightly

By **ANDREW KING**
for Metro Vancouver

British Columbia's immigrant population decreased in 2007 compared to the previous year, while Quebec and Alberta's increased, according to a Statistics Canada study released yesterday.

In 2007, B.C.'s immigrant population decreased by 9,600 people, causing a 4,400 drop in immigrant workers aged 25 to 54. That's a 1.1 per cent decrease. A high demand for workers and an influx of immigrants accounted for the highest increases in Quebec and Alberta.

"We are seeing a population difference, but there could be a number of reasons for this," said StatsCan analyst Jason Gilmour.

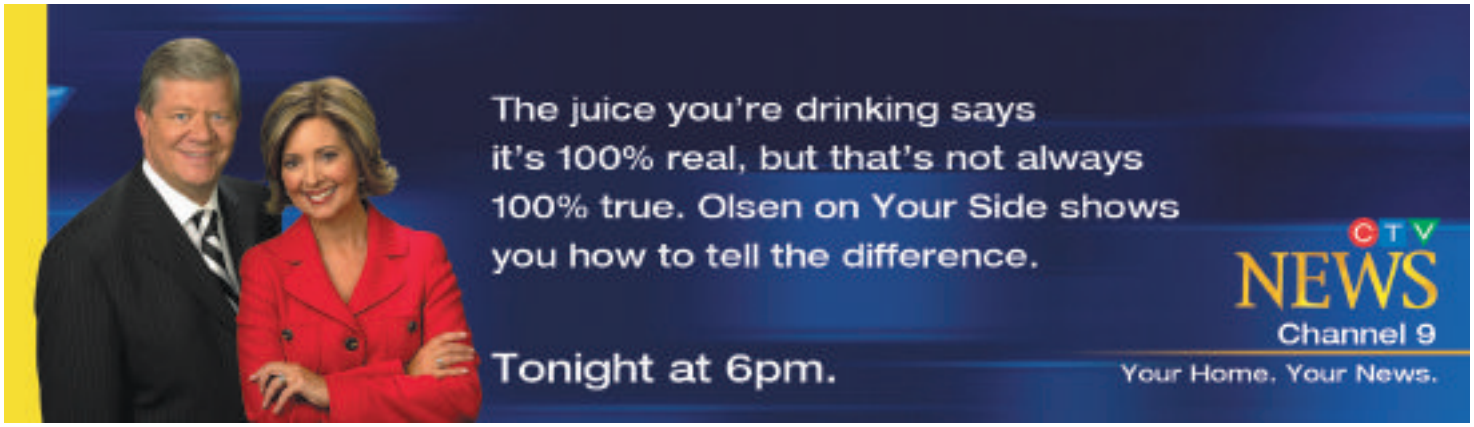
employment rate

» The B.C. immigrant employment rate rose slightly by 0.6 per cent, resulting from a population that declined faster than employment.

The agriculture and financial sectors have been affected because of the drop in immigrant workers, said Gilmour. Personal care services and automotive repair and maintenance have also experienced an increase in job vacancies.

While immigrant workers left B.C., there was a national immigrant employment increase of 2.1 per cent, seen mostly in the transportation and accommodation sectors.

Canadian-born workers' employment increased 1.3 per cent nationally and 3.1 per cent in B.C. in the areas of public administration, professional and scientific sectors.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Clifford Olson, left, a convicted serial killer serving 11 concurrent life sentences for murdering 11 B.C. children in the 1980s, has a MySpace page. His victims' families are outraged. SOURCE: GLOBAL TV

The Underwear Affair
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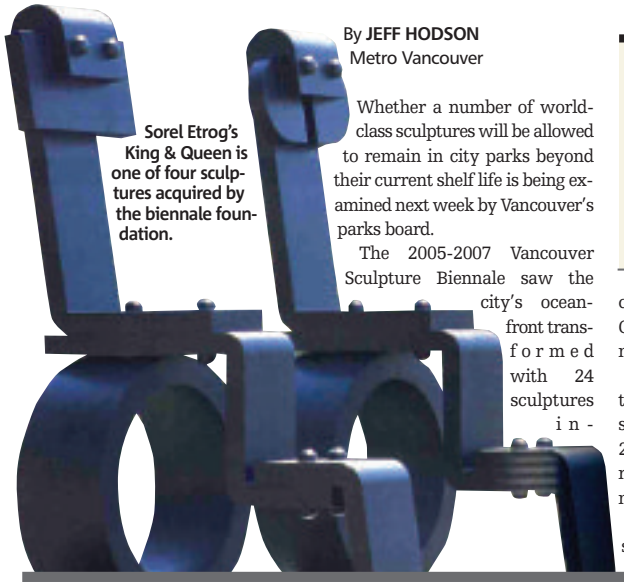
Sculpting a longer attraction



Sorel Etrog's King & Queen is one of four sculptures acquired by the biennale foundation.

By JEFF HODSON
Metro Vancouver

Whether a number of world-class sculptures will be allowed to remain in city parks beyond their current shelf life is being examined next week by Vancouver's parks board.

The 2005-2007 Vancouver Sculpture Biennale saw the city's oceanfront transformed with 24 sculptures including an upside down church in Coal Harbour and a pair of engagement rings overlooking English Bay.

In March, the biennale foundation requested that a number of its sculptures, acquired during the 2005-2007 biennale, be allowed to remain on parkland beyond the 18 months currently agreed upon.

Commissioner Spencer Herbert said next week's public consultation will ask people whether it is OK to extend the temporary exhibition period for some pieces.

"A lot of residents have said to me, 'Why did this piece come down?' or 'I miss that piece, isn't it possible for it to stay around a little longer?'" Herbert said.

"I think we want to see if we can have that flexibility."

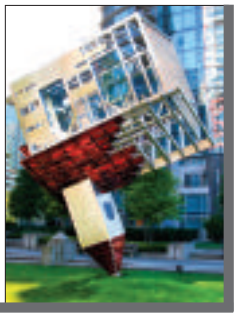
Biennale chair Michella Frosch said she hopes there is public support for extending the sculptures exhibition beyond 18 months.

"It's extremely important for our public art program and the City of Vancouver and cultural tourism."

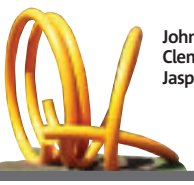
-jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

four down

» At the conclusion of the biennale, the foundation acquired four of the sculptures, including Bernar Venet's 217.5 Arc X 5 and Sorel Etrog's King and Queen. Two of the four have been temporarily loaned to the Port of San Diego.



Dennis Oppenheim's Device to Root Out Evil



John Clement's Jasper

Bernar Venet's 217.5 Arcs X 13

»news In Brief

» **TRIAL** Closing submissions continued yesterday at the Frank Paul inquiry with a lawyer from the aboriginal legal services of Toronto, cknw.com reports. Kimberly Murray said the complaints against two Vancouver police officers involved with Paul the night he died should never have been handled informally.

» **SHOOTING** The RCMP are looking for suspects in an overnight targeted shooting in Burnaby, news1130.com reports. Police were called to a shop on Hastings Street near Willingdon Avenue just after midnight yesterday. Police said no one was hurt.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bill 29 compensation

Important notice for past and present B.C. health care workers (hospital and long-term care)

The multi-union Facilities Bargaining Association representing health care workers covered by the Facilities Collective Agreement (government-funded hospitals and long-term care facilities in B.C.) have reached a settlement with the Province of B.C. related to last year's Supreme Court of Canada decision that struck down sections of *Bill 29 (Health and Social Services Delivery Act)*.

As part of that settlement monies have been set aside to provide some compensation for workers whose employment was impacted by the implementation of *Bill 29* from 2002 onward, and who meet certain criteria.

If you worked under the Facilities Collective Agreement in 2002 or after and believe you may have a claim for compensation, you must obtain a Claims Form and submit it by June 15, 2008.

You can obtain a claims package which includes a Claims Form by:

- Contacting the union that represented you at the time your employment was impacted by *Bill 29*
- Downloading the package from www.heu.org (*Bill 29* Information)
- Calling a toll-free number 1-800-909-4994 (HEU)
- Sending an email to bill29compensation@heu.org

The deadline for returning your Claims Form is June 15, 2008

Police ID victims of weekend shootings

By JEFF HODSON
Metro Vancouver

Lower Mainland homicide investigators released the names of two men yesterday who were gunned down in separate targeted attacks this weekend.

Jonathan Alex Barber, 23, of Langley was shot while driving his Porsche Cayenne in the 7,000 block of Kingsway Friday night.

Police have found no links to organized crime, drugs or other homicides, but remain convinced that the shooting was not a random incident.

A friend of Barber's, a 17-year-old girl, was also shot at and injured. She was in a separate vehicle and was following behind him at the time of the attack.

As well, Duane Harvey Meyer, 41, of Mission has been identified as the victim in a fatal shooting Thursday night in Abbotsford. The attack was likely targeted, police said.

Meyer is believed to have links to organized crime, and did not live in the area.

A silver Mercedes SUV was spotted in the neighbourhood at the time of the shooting.

No one has been arrested in either of the shootings.

Dozens protest Bill C-50

Two-dozen demonstrators braved rain outside Burrard SkyTrain station yesterday to protest the federal government's proposed changes to a bill that would affect how immigrants are selected for entrance into Canada.

If passed, Bill C-50 would likely deny entry to immigrants currently allowed into the country, organizers say.

The groups No One Is Illegal, Justice for Migrant Workers and the Chinese Canadian National Council rallied to bring awareness to the bill.

Harsha Walia, of No One Is Illegal, said the bill "assigns a value to (immigrants) based on what people perceive their value to be rather than the inherent dignity of migrants."

Aviiana Vaz, a new Canadian citizen from Bolivia and an organizer with Justice for Migrant Workers, said she could be personally affected by Bill C-50.

"If I want to sponsor some of my family, they probably won't meet the requirements, because under Bill C-50 the government isn't going to recognize family unification."

ANDREW KING/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

letters

Tears for Jacko were deserved

Re: "Monkey tears odd when people dying."

I would like to see letter writer Kirill Dzubanov placed in a habitat believed to be safe and that would be the only world he/she would ever know, then have such a cruel fate brought on as poor Jocko. I assure you that I would weep for this poor unfortunate soul.

— ANDREW G. DONDO, MAPLE RIDGEX

People have right to grieve

Re: "Monkey tears odd when people dying."

As a pet owner I can certainly understand why people would cry at the death of an animal, particularly if it was needless or cruel. Yes, there is a difference between the death of a human being and an animal, but let us not begrudge someone's right to grieve.

— ROLAND DERKSEN, VANCOUVER

E-mail vancouverletters@metronews.ca. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

The Beasley: a lifestyle-defining location

By Andrew King

As Vancouver's city planner, Larry Beasley transformed the city's downtown core with his "Living First" strategy, people became attracted to an urban lifestyle, creating a more modern, stylish city, making it the premier real estate address it is today. Beasley's focus on revitalizing neighbourhoods and preserving the city's heritage sites has led to a Yaletown residential development being named after him.

Homer Café Building.

Exterior Rendering.

The Beasley, Amacon real estate developer's latest project on the border of Yaletown and Downtown, at the corner of Homer and Smithe, is a combination of modern and classic, inspired by Larry Beasley's ideas along with features that even a dog will love.

"A staff member said 'let's call it the Beasley,'" said Amacon sales associate Judy Graham of the developer's decision to honour the former city planner. "From that they decided to approach him, because he had just retired, and ask him if he would mind if they named the building after him, [and] that's how it got started."

Staying true to Larry Beasley's commitment of preserving the city's heritage sites, accompanying the modern tower at its base will be a restored three storey heritage building. Built in 1913, the building, once home to apartments and cafes and most recently the historic Homer Café, is set to become a high-end restaurant with rental apartments above, separate from The Beasley suites. The Edwardian architecture of the classic building will provide The Beasley with unmistakable charm and character, setting it apart from other Yaletown buildings.

> Staying true to Larry Beasley's commitment of preserving the city's heritage sites, accompanying the modern tower at its base will be a restored three storey heritage building … the historic Homer Café, is set to become a high-end restaurant with rental apartments above, separate from The Beasley suites.

With prices starting at $400,000, and almost 70 per cent sold, residences range in size from 550 sq feet to 1300 sq feet for the penthouse suites, the 33 storey tower is slated for completion in early 2011.

For more information, call Judy Graham, Amacon sales associate 604-669-7343 or visit thebeasley.com.

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Location, location, location

By Andrew King

As if people needed another reason to consider living in Yaletown. Now they have one. Known for Chic restaurants and bars, trendy cafes and fashionable boutiques and an overall focus on style, the Vancouver neighbourhood is one of the most highly sought areas to call home. And now, The Beasley, Yaletown's latest resident, will give people another opportunity to be a part of something special.

In the "perfect" location, where the vibe of Yaletown meets the bustle of Downtown, The Beasley is surrounded by choices to satisfy every interest and taste of all ages.

Whether it's going to the opera at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, catching a Canucks or Lions' game, or walking along False Creek, The Beasley is only blocks away from the best attractions the city has to offer.

canada

Canada's last surviving WWI veteran, who lost his citizenship when he moved to the U.S. nearly 90 years ago, has become a Canadian again. John Babcock, 107, left, took the oath of citizenship in his Washington home yesterday. SOURCE: CBC.CA

Dallaire attacks Canada, U.S.

Countries called as good as terrorists

Iraq attack

» Kenney's comments about Al Qaeda apparently refer to a February attack in Baghdad that military officials said was carried out by unwitting young bombers. But the story was later retracted when it emerged the two female bombers were actually in their late 20s or 30s and did not have Down syndrome.

Liberal Senator Roméo Dallaire says the U.S. and Canada have descended to the level of the terrorists they pursue by flouting international law and allowing Omar Khadr to be prosecuted for war crimes at Guantanamo Bay.

"They are operating on a law of their own," Dallaire told the House of Commons foreign affairs human rights committee yesterday. "The (Guantanamo trial) is flawed, it is illegal, and we're letting it happen."

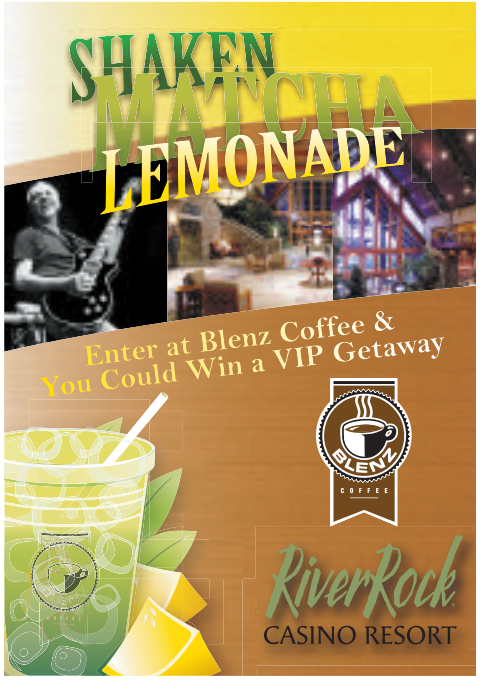
His comments sparked a terse exchange with Conservative MP Jason Kenney, who asked how Dallaire could compare Canada's support for Guantanamo to terrorists who kidnap and kill civilians.

"Is it your testimony that Al Qaeda strapping up a 14-year-old girl with Down syndrome and sending her into a pet market to be remotely detonated is the moral equivalent to Canada's not making extraordinary political efforts for a transfer of Omar Khadr to this country?" he asked. "Is that your position?"

"You're either with the law or you're not with the law," Dallaire shot back. "You are not allowed to go against (international) conventions and if you do, you're going down the same road as those who absolutely don't believe (in the law)." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news In Brief

» **POLITICS** Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty says he did not know his former chief of staff had broken the rules in granting an untendered contract to a consultant with close Tory ties. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Helicopter crash kills 4

Chopper goes down in B.C. neighbourhood

A pedestrian was among four people killed when a helicopter crashed into a residential neighbourhood in Cranbrook, B.C., yesterday.

Witnesses told local media the pedestrian appeared to have been dragged by the helicopter as it crashed to the ground, and bypassers attempted to pull the person from the flames but failed.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known, but the weather conditions were described as good.

The Bell 206 helicopter was working under contract for BC Hydro, the provincial electrical utility, according to the Transportation Safety Board, which was sending investigators to the community about 200 km southwest of Calgary. REUTERS

Calgary **Patch Adams on hand**

ROBIN KUNSKI/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Daryl K. (Doc) Seaman, left, Hunter Campbell (Patch) Adams and Brett Wilson share a brief moment in boxers yesterday. The legendary and endearingly memorable doctor Patch Adams was on hand as the Calgary Health Region launched the funding campaign for the Southern Alberta Institute of Urology, to be located at Rockyview Hospital.

Liberals slam PM's lawsuit

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's lawsuit against the federal Liberal Party is a deliberate attempt to keep opposition MPs from exploring "alleged improprieties" within the government, Liberals say in their legal defence.

"Prime Minister Harper's claim constitutes a fundamental attack on freedom of political expression," the Liberal Party says in its statement of defence against Harper's $2.5- million lawsuit, prompted by allegations that federal Tories used financial incentives to woo an MP's support.

At the centre of the lawsuit are allegations in a recent book that two Conservative officials offered MP Chuck Cadman, who had terminal cancer, a million-dollar life insurance policy if he agreed to return to the Conservative party before a May 2005 non-confidence motion that could have toppled Paul Martin's minority Liberals and forced an election.

The Conservatives have maintained that while two senior party officials did visit Cadman, they only offered to assist him in rejoining the party. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sweet tooth linked to DNA

Gene variant may be behind sugar cravings: Study

gene vs. variant

» El-Sohemy says the normal gene probably allows the brain to sense when the body has had enough sugar and suppresses appetite. Brains regulated by the variant would have a diminished ability to recognize when sugar levels were elevated and would not shut down consumption.

If you have a sweet tooth, it won't be found amongst your molars or canines. It's inserted in your DNA instead.

Cake and cola and cookie lovers may well be able to blame their cravings on a common variant of a gene that controls the brain's ability to sense sugars in the body, a new University of Toronto study suggests. About one in five people has the variant.

The gene may also have implications for a person's risk of getting diabetes.

"In humans this gene functions as a glucose sensor in the brain to regulate appetite or food intake," says U of T nutrition expert Ahmed El-Sohemy, the study's principal author. "It's involved in the brain's ability to detect sugar, and when (you) have had enough," says El-Sohemy.

People with the variant of the gene GLUT 2 consistently ate more sweets and drank more high-calorie drinks that those with the more common form of it, the study published today in the journal Physiological Genomics found.

The GLUT 2 gene, which also helps regulate insulin release from the pancreas, has long been known to be involved in breaking down sugars in the body. The study, which involved about 850 subjects, began as a look at the gene's pancreatic function and whether it determined how efficiently the body clears sugar from the bloodstream. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

StatsCan

Immigrants face job hurdles: Study

WORK A chorus of voices are demanding the government help immigrants "hit the ground running" after a comprehensive new study showed the gap in unemployment between newcomers and Canadian-born workers is getting larger. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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world

A New York man who says he was denied a seat on a five-hour JetBlue flight and was instead told to "hang out" in the plane's bathroom has sued the airline for $2 million, saying he suffered "extreme humiliation." REUTERS

China said to welcome incoming aid

China welcomed offers of international aid yesterday after an earthquake killed nearly 12,000 people, and said it was moved by the show of support.

giving
» Despite their own problems, China pledged $5 million to Myanmar yesterday.

"We express our welcome and gratitude. Relevant departments of China and relief departments welcome the aid of international society," ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a news conference.

The United States, Canada, Britain, the European Union, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan have offered assistance. REUTERS

Death toll rising

Chinese officials fear the worst as 60,000 missing

The death toll in China's earthquake climbed past 13,000 yesterday and looked set to rise much higher after media said some 19,000 people were buried in rubble in just one area.

Rain and severed roads hampered rescuers in the mountainous area near the epicentre of Monday's 7.9-magnitude quake in the southwestern province of Sichuan, China's worst earthquake in three decades.

State media reported devastation as troops reached stricken villages near the epicentre in Wenchuan, a remote county cut off by landslides about 100 km northwest of the provincial capital, Chengdu.

Officials have said more powerful aftershocks could hit the region and mudslides may add to the toll where 60,000 people were unaccounted for. More than 50,000 troops joined disaster relief efforts.. REUTERS

JASON LEE/REUTERS

A Chinese rescue worker walks past destroyed houses and cars yesterday as a top disaster official said storms were hampering rescue efforts in the most devastated areas.

EU steps up Myanmar pressure

Heavy rains pelted homeless cyclone survivors in Myanmar's Irrawaddy delta yesterday, complicating the already slow delivery of aid to more than 1.5 million people facing hunger and disease.

kits
» Canada will send emergency shelter kits to aid survivors of Myanmar's cyclone it announced yesterday.

As more foreign aid trickled in, the European Union called on the military junta to allow entry to aid workers to help victims avert "an even greater tragedy."

The UN says up to 100,000 are dead. The junta has accepted aid from the outside world but the help has only trickled in as the rulers have made it clear they do not want outsiders distributing it. REUTERS

»news In Brief

» **CLINTON** Hillary Clinton scored a victory over front-runner Barack Obama in West Virginia yesterday, but with only 28 delegates at stake, it does little to stop his march to the Democratic presidential nomination.

» **PEACE** Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said yesterday that he and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas had reached "understandings and points of agreement" on some key issues in U.S.-backed peace talks.

» **INDIA** Seven bombs ripped through the crowded streets of India's western city of Jaipur yesterday evening, killing around 60 people in markets and outside Hindu temples. The bombs, many strapped to bicycles, exploded within minutes of each other. REUTERS

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business

Dollar		Oil	
0.16¢	C$ 99.72¢US U.S.$ $1.0028	$125.80US	$1.57

More than one-third of workers globally would choose their cellphone over their wallet, keys, laptop or digital music player if they had to leave the house for 24 hours and could take only one item, says a new survey. REUTERS

energy

Feds OK Enbridge pipeline projects

CALGARY Enbridge Inc. said Ottawa has approved its planned Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights pipeline projects. Enbridge said Ottawa's OK of the two lines will help with obtaining final construction clearance from the National Energy Board, though some U.S. approvals are still pending. REUTERS

Rona's profit falls 90%

Quarter reflects drop in economic confidence: CEO

Alberta effect

» A temporary slowdown in demand for building materials in fast-growing Alberta also hurt Rona's performance, the company said.

Rona Inc., the country's biggest Canadian-owned home improvement retailer, said severe winter storms, especially in Ontario and Quebec, contributed to a nearly 90 per cent decline in profits in the previous three-month period as construction and renovation activity stalled.

"The results for first quarter 2008 reflect the strong drop in consumer confidence in the country's economic growth," said Rona's president and chief executive officer Robert Dutton.

The company said it earned $1 million, or 1 cent a share, in the three months ended March 30. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news In Brief

» **CRUDE** Oil surged to a record peak near $127 US yesterday before settling at $125.80 US after OPEC producer Iran said it was studying a plan to cut output, despite signs record-high prices are hurting consumer nations.

» **RICE** The current spike in world rice prices could be devastating, even if it only lasts for a few months, and will leave African nations vulnerable to unrest, a top expert said yesterday.

» **TECH** Hewlett-Packard Co. plans to buy technology outsourcing company Electronic Data Systems Corp. to better compete against IBM. REUTERS

metro
Metro Vancouver
1190 Homer St., Suite 250
Vancouver, BC V6B 2X6
main: 604-602-1002
fax: 1-866-254-6504
sales: 604-602-1002
editorial: vancouverletters@metronews.ca
website: www.metronews.ca

- **Publisher** Maryse Lalonde
- **Editor-In-Chief** Dianne Rinehart
- **Managing Editor** Fernando Carneiro
- **Interactive Director** Jodi Brown
- **Distribution Manager** George Acimovic
- **Distribution inquiries** vancouver_distribution@metronews.ca
- **Group Publisher, Metro English Canada** Bill McDonald

Metro is the world's largest international newspaper, with more than 18.5 million daily readers in 100 major cities in 21 countries.

TSX mulling office in China

Canada's biggest stock market operator, TSX Group Inc., said yesterday it was considering opening an office in China, its fastest growing source of new listings.

It would join a small group of global exchanges that have come to China, seeking to attract lucrative Chinese share offerings. The London Stock Exchange opened a Beijing office in January, following U.S. rivals the New York Stock Exchange, a unit of NYSE Euronext, and the Nasdaq Stock Market Inc.

The office would be its first outside of Canada. REUTERS

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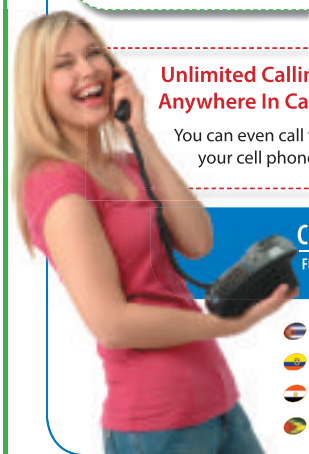

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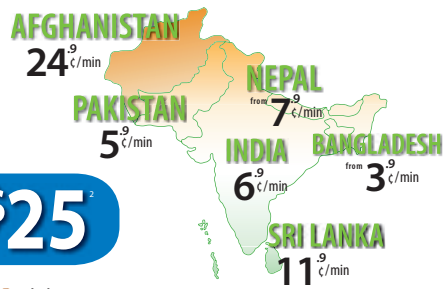

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sports

Former Detroit Red Wings star Steve Yzerman, left, boxer Lennox Lewis and speedskater Marc Gagnon are among this year's class of inductees, announced yesterday, for Canada's Sports Hall of Fame. METRO VANCOUVER

Pens close in on final

Pittsburgh uses defence to take commanding lead

PENGUINS 4 FLYERS 1

Marian Hossa scored twice, including the game-winner, as the Pittsburgh Penguins topped the Flyers 4-1 in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals last night in Philadelphia.

Ryan Whitney and Ryan Malone also lit the lamp for the Penguins, who improved to 11-1 in the postseason and are one win away from reaching the Stanley Cup Final for the first time since 1992.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 17-of-18 shots to record the win.

R.J. Umberger tallied for the Flyers, who are facing an 0-3 series deficit for the first time since falling to the Detroit Red Wings in a four-game Cup Final sweep in 1997.

Martin Biron surrendered three goals on 24 shots.

Game 4 is slated for tomorrow in Philadelphia. METRO NEWS SERVICES

JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

Flyers centre Mike Richards is checked hard by Pittsburgh Penguins star Sidney Crosby last night during Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals in Philadelphia.

Team Canada plans to come out firing

Norway in for tough challenge

By **MATTHEW WUEST**
Metro Halifax

Canada will get reacquainted with an old Pal today, but the team isn't exactly rolling out the red carpet for him.

No, the Canadians plan to make the life of Norwegian goaltender Pal Grotnes downright miserable after he nearly stole a game from them last week at the world hockey championship.

This time, the stakes are higher — it's the win-or-go-home quarter-final at the Metro Centre at 4:30 p.m.

Chimera

"There wasn't enough traffic, not enough bodies," Canadian forward Jason Chimera said, of last Thursday's 2-1 win over Norway in which Grotnes made 50 saves. "We tried to be too cute against him. We didn't play our style of game."

The 31-year-old Grotnes, a part-time carpenter when he's not building walls in his crease, wasn't talking to media yesterday after Norway's practice. The team's goaltending coach imposed the interview ban, Norwegian officials said.

Silent or not, Grotnes will be a key factor today, as Norway — having never made it to the world quarter-finals before — plays perhaps the biggest game in its hockey history.

A stingy defensive trap has been Norway's key to success.

"They don't have to make adjustments," Canadian head coach Ken Hitchcock said. "They played the way they have to play against us. We're the ones that have to adjust."

SCOREBOARD

NHL

CONFERENCE FINALS
EASTERN CONFERENCE
PHILADELPHIA VS. PITTSBURGH
Game 3 — Last night
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia
Game 4 — Tomorrow
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 4:30
(Pittsburgh leads series 2-0)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
DALLAS VS. DETROIT
Game 4 — Today
Detroit at Dallas, 5
*Game 5 — Saturday
Dallas at Detroit, 10:30
(Detroit leads series 3-0)
(* – if necessary)

NBA

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
EASTERN CONFERENCE
BOSTON VS. CLEVELAND
Game 5 — Today
Cleveland at Boston, 5
Game 6 — Friday
Boston at Cleveland, 5
(Series tied 2-2)
DETROIT VS. ORLANDO
Game 5 — Last night
Orlando at Detroit
(Detroit leads series 3-1)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
L.A. LAKERS VS. UTAH
Game 5 — Tonight
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 7:30
Game 6 — Friday
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 7:30
(Series tied 2-2)
NEW ORLEANS VS. SAN ANTONIO
Game 5 — Last night
New Orleans 101 San Antonio 79
Game 6 — Tomorrow
New Orleans at San Antonio, TBA
(New Orleans leads series 3-2)
(* – if necessary)

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Cleveland 4 Oakland 0
Baltimore 5 Boston 4
Tampa Bay 2 N.Y. Yankees 1 (11 ings)
Toronto 5 Minnesota 3
Texas 5 Seattle 2
Kansas City 3 Detroit 2
L.A. Angels 2 Chicago White Sox 0
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Philadelphia 5 Atlanta 4
N.Y. Mets 6 Washington 3
Cincinnati 5 Florida 3
San Diego 4 Chicago Cubs 3
Milwaukee 5 L.A. Dodgers 3
Pittsburgh 8 St. Louis 4
Arizona 8 Colorado 4
San Francisco 4 Houston 2
TODAY'S GAMES
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Seattle at Texas, 11:05
Boston at Baltimore, 12:05
Oakland at Cleveland, 4:05
N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay, 4:10
Toronto at Minnesota, 5:10
Detroit at Kansas City, 5:10
Chicago Sox at L.A. Angels, 7:05
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 4:05
Washington at N.Y. Mets, 4:10
Florida at Cincinnati, 4:10
San Diego at Chicago Cubs, 5:05
L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee, 5:05
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 5:15
Colorado at Arizona, 6:40
Houston at San Francisco, 7:15

IIHF HOCKEY

QUARTER-FINALS
TODAY'S GAMES
AT QUEBEC CITY
Russia vs. Switzerland, 10
Sweden vs. Czech Republic, 4:15
AT HALIFAX
CANADA vs. Norway, 12:30
Finland vs. U.S., 4:15

MEMORIAL CUP

SCHEDULE AND SCORES FOR THE CANADIAN HOCKEY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP IN KITCHENER:
ROUND-ROBIN
Friday
Gatineau vs. Kitchener, 4
Saturday
Belleville vs. Spokane, 1
Sunday
Kitchener vs. Spokane, 1:30
Monday
Belleville vs. Gatineau, 4
Tuesday
Spokane vs. Gatineau, 4
Wednesday, May 21
Kitchener vs. Belleville, 4

New Orleans one away from ousting San Antonio

HORNETS 101 SPURS 79

David West had career playoff-highs of 38 points and 14 rebounds, and the New Orleans Hornets continued their success at home with a 101-79 win over San Antonio, pushing ahead after five games of their Western Conference semifinal series.

West

Chris Paul added 22 points and 14 assists for the Hornets, who hold a 3-2 lead in the best-of-seven series with Game 6 scheduled for tomorrow in San Antonio.

West, who shot 16-of-25 from the field, also had five assists and five blocked shots. The Hornets are one win away from advancing past the second round for first time in franchise history.

Pistons 91 Magic 86 — Richard Hamilton scored 31 points, and Tayshaun Prince came up with a crucial block in the closing seconds as the Detroit Pistons moved into the Eastern Conference finals for a sixth straight year by holding on for a 91-86 victory last night over the Orlando Magic. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Will Hornets save the NBA?

TOUL BOX

SCOTT RINTOUL
scott.rintoul@metronews.ca

Will the NBA need a lockout of its own to end the era of boring basketball, or will the New Orleans Hornets provide the antidote?

The Hornets are currently engaged in a tough series with the New Jersey Devils of the NBA, the San Antonio Spurs.

Much like the Devils, the Spurs have found a way to turn an exciting game into a cure for insomnia during their recent run of three championships in five years.

I respect the Spurs for their commitment to defence, their willingness to sacrifice personal statistics for wins and their ability to adapt their game in order to defeat a variety of opponents. But none of that translates into aesthetically pleasing basketball.

« The Spurs have found a way to turn an exciting game into a cure for insomnia during their recent run. »

I would rather watch reruns of Roseanne than the average Spurs game. And the bigger problem is that other organizations watch what kind of basketball wins titles in San Antonio, and they mould their teams in a similar fashion.

Dr. James Naismith, if you're listening up there with the rest of the basketball gods, please give the Hornets the strength necessary to reclaim the game that has fallen under the tyrannous rule of **Greg Popovich** and his charges in Texas.

» **Sergio Garcia**'s win at The Player's Championship this past weekend was the best thing that could have happened for the PGA in the absence of **Tiger Woods**.

"How's Tiger doing?" is still the first question asked when the subject of a tournament arises, and the average fan puts a mental asterisk beside the winner's name when Woods is not in the field.

With all due respect to **Paul Goydos**, who lost to Garcia in a playoff, the tour is in desperate need of a few more household names at the top of the leaderboard each week so that each tourney isn't so dependant on Tiger.

If players like Garcia, **Phil Mickelson**, **Vijay Singh** and **Ernie Els** are raising trophies on a consistent basis, the tournaments and the fields within them gain the credibility they appear to lack without the world's number one teeing it up. The story of an unheralded, unlikely winner is only compelling when it doesn't seem to be happening every single week.

» Want to weigh in? Email me at scott.rintoul@metronews.ca.

How to make a Scott Rintoul: Mix equal parts college athlete, sports fan and broadcaster. Shake vigorously. Serve chilled Monday-Friday on the TEAM 1040 from 6-9 a.m. or online at thetoulbox.blogspot.com.

»news In Brief

» **MLB** U.S. federal prosecutors have filed a new indictment against Barry Bonds, baseball's home run king. Bonds was charged with 14 counts of lying to a grand jury and one count of obstruction that he denied knowingly taking illegal performance-enhancing drugs.

» **GOLF** Sweden's Annika Sorenstam, who has dominated women's golf for a decade, said yesterday she would quit competition at the end of this year to focus on family and her business.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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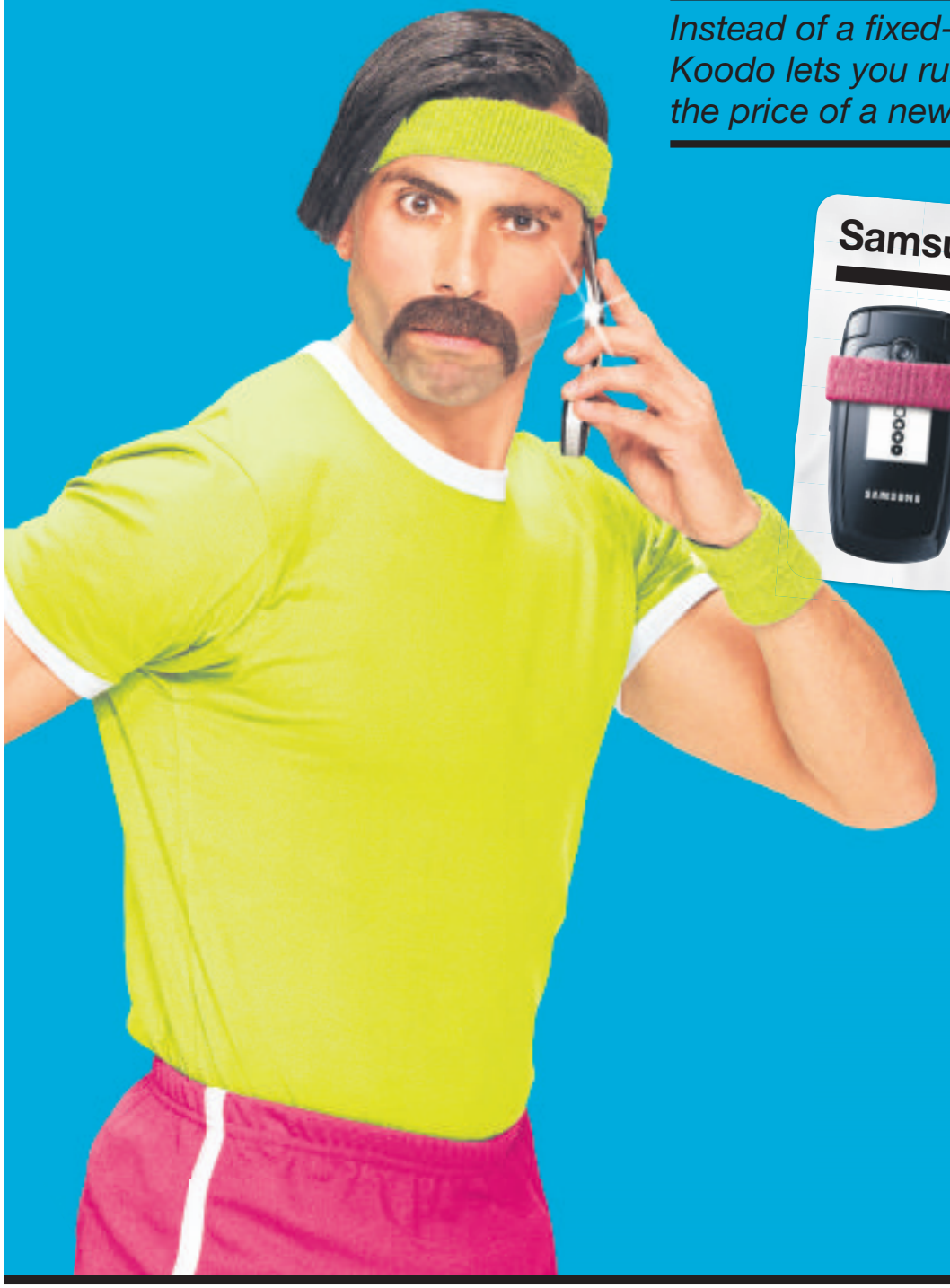

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Koodo Shop Locations

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Metropolis at Metrotown
Oakridge Centre
Richmond Centre

The New York Knicks made it official yesterday and introduced Mike D'Antoni, left, as their new head coach. D'Antoni coached the Phoenix Suns for the past four years. The Knicks agreed in principle to a deal late Saturday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Whitecaps down L.A. in Edmonton

Alberta capital caught up in Beckham-mania

WHITECAPS 2 GALAXY 1

By **JEFF CUMMINGS**
Metro Vancouver

Beckham-mania hit Alberta's capital like a prairie thunderstorm yesterday as England's soccer superstar thrilled more than 37,000 fans at Commonwealth Stadium.

David Beckham's name drew an explosion of cheers as he was introduced for the friendly between the Vancouver Whitecaps and the Los Angeles Galaxy.

The English star drew an assist in a 2-1 Galaxy loss and played most of the game despite having an injured foot.

"I'm sure they're satisfied," Beckham said in an interview afterwards.

Even when he landed at Edmonton International Airport Monday, the city was abuzz, and Beckham was pleased with Edmonton's welcome and the turnout.

"That obviously a good thing for the game and a good thing for the Galaxy."

During the pre-game warm up, hundreds of fans lined up vying for his attention, and at one point a woman yelled, "Beckham, I love you!"

"C'mon, look at him, he is just gorgeous," said 17-year-old Chasidy Yanda who lined up along the front end of the stands with her friends to get a closer look at the superstar.

"He is so hot."

A family wearing Beckham's jerseys drove over 500 km from Spirit River, Alta., just to see their favourite player in Edmonton.

"I was so excited when I heard the news that he was coming here," said Joshua Kosabeck who was almost speechless when asked about his favourite player.

"I am just so amazed that he is standing right there," said 19-year-old fan Leanne Evans who admitted she likes Beckham's soccer skills, along with his good looks.

"I just want to get out there and hug him."

With Becks being named to England's squad for a friendly at Wembley Stadium, and then one in Trinidad and Tobago June 1, fans in Edmonton will have one up on Toronto. Because of Beckham's plans to play for England, he won't suit up against Toronto FC May 31.

PHOTOS BY BEN LEMPHERS/METRO EDMONTON

Above: David Beckham stoops to check on an injured teammate at Commonwealth Stadium last night. Left: A fan at Commonwealth shows her devotion to Los Angeles Galaxy star David Beckham.

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Canada's Best Diversity Employers recognized IBM Canada as one of the best because it requires managers to attend a mandatory diversity and inclusive leadership program and links job postings to community agencies to recruit employees from diverse groups.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Company exports leadership

IBM team looks to create new leaders in rural Vietnam

By **RAFAEL BRUSILOW**
for Metro Vancouver

Canadian Daniel Chan is going abroad to provide aid to a developing country, but rather than food or money he will be giving out something just as valuable: Leadership skills.

Chan, a client manager at IBM, will be part of an IBM Corporate Service Corps team heading to Vietnam to teach business leaders valuable leadership and development skills to help strengthen the local economy, increase economic opportunities and improve access to learning resources for the local business community.

Chan says the opportunity to impart his own experience and knowledge to up-and-coming leaders in a developing country was too good to pass up.

"I would say that I'm a pretty adventurous guy and throughout my IBM career I've been involved in education and training roles, so I'm truly excited for this opportunity to develop global leadership and experience," Chan said.

While in Vietnam, Chan and his team will be living and working in the city of Danang, a much smaller, less Westernized venue than metropolises like Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City.

The move is deliberate, as businesses in smaller cities need the most help.

Chan says it's all about showing local leaders how they can take their business global.

"It's exciting to engage with local companies knowing we're going to assist them to be more competitive in a global economy," Chan said.

> *«What the future demands is that we have people who are able to cross time zones and cultures to be effective in the emerging global economy. We are developing the skills of these people as global leaders.»*
>
> *Manager of corporate citizen affairs at IBM*
> *Dave Robitaille*

Chan's team will include IBM employees from the U.K., Germany, the U.S. and Mexico. The trip will be the first of six scheduled for the next three years, with 12 project teams totalling 100 people being sent to Romania, Turkey, Ghana, Tanzania, Vietnam and the Phillipines.

Each team will spend at least one month in each country, with several months of preparation beforehand and post-trip work afterwards.

Dave Robitaille, manager of corporate citizen affairs at IBM, says interest in the program was extremely high among IBM employees. More than 5,500 people applied worldwide for the 100 available positions.

"We like to joke that it was more difficult to get into than Harvard," Robitaille said.

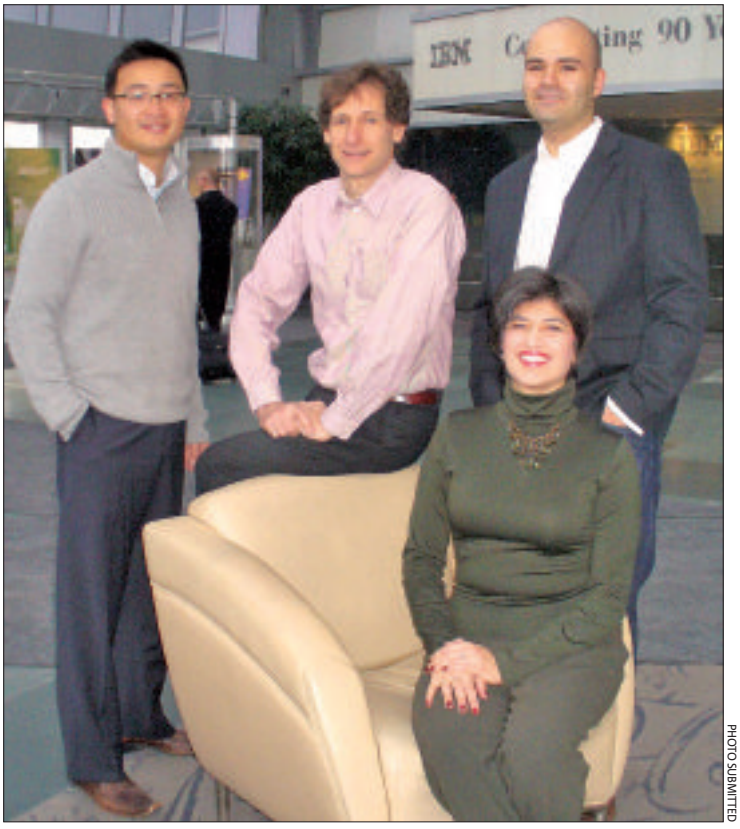
IBM is working with local non-governmental organizations in each participating country to ensure the program suits local business needs.

Robitaille says the need for exporting leadership skills is just as important as other forms of assistance developing countries need to flourish in the world economy.

"What the future demands is that we have people who are able to cross time zones and cultures to be effective in the emerging global economy. We are developing the skills of these people as global leaders," Robitaille said.

select company

» Across Canada alone there were 242 applicants throughout the country vying for only seven program spots that were available for the leadership building teams.



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Seen here from left are the Corporate Service Corps Daniel Chan, Marc Seeman, Levon Stepanian and, seated, Phee Vania. They are travelling to Vietnam to help create new leaders.

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A growing number of colleges dorms — about two dozen — in the United State are offering coed rooms, much to the astonishment of many baby boomer parents. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Clients can conflict with competition

WORKPLACE LAW
DANIEL LUBLIN
dan@canadaemploymentlawyer.com

Thinking of jumping ship to the competition? You better think twice before taking your clients with you.

Nothing infuriates a company more than news of an ex-employee soliciting away its most prized assets: the clients. But clients, much like those employees, do not stay sedentary. Seldom are they attracted to one company or another exclusively by virtue of the services they are offered. Rather, their affiliation lies with the relationships that are built and the key employees who have built them.

In permitting business relationships to follow the employees who possess them, courts have generally condoned open competition by ex-employees as long as the means are not manifestly unfair. But this is not so where an employment contract prevents such behaviour.

Having made the decision to jump to a competing insurance firm, broker Frederick Moroz thought he could solicit his old clients to join him. But his old insurance brokerage, Wilson M. Beck Insurance Services Inc, felt otherwise. After being contacted by a number of its customers wishing to transfer their business to Moroz's new employer, Beck applied for an interim court order — seeking to restrain Moroz from soliciting its customers and forcing him to hand over any company materials that he might have taken with him.

Clients tend to stay with a company because of the personal interaction they've experienced with someone in that company rather than the policies within, writes our columnist.

The evidence of Moroz taking Beck's documents was scant, according to the B.C. judge who recently heard the case. But the evidence of Moroz's solicitation of Beck's customers was much stronger: Moroz admitting to contacting about 20 per cent of the surety clients that he serviced while employed by Wilson Beck.

Although Moroz argued that he hadn't actively solicited the customers and that his employment contract didn't apply to the type of work he sought, the court was unconvinced. While a client is entitled to decide with whom it will conduct its business, an employee who is subject to a non-solicitation clause in his contract must not actively pursue that work. Finding that Moroz was not at liberty to "act in an unfair way," the court ordered him to not solicit or entice any of his old clients to join him.

This case demonstrates how far Canadian courts may go to prevent what is perceived to be unfair competition. Upon departing, employees should first pause for the following reasons:

»Contractual provisions limiting solicitation and or competition are commonplace in today's employment contract — and they are increasingly being enforced.

»In addition to contractual obligations, all employees have implied duties of good faith and fidelity towards their employers, which prohibit taking confidential client information to use in competition against a former employer

»Employees entrusted with control over the business or even key aspects of it may be viewed as fiduciaries who are required to act in the company's best interest long after their departure.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer practising exclusively in the law of wrongful dismissal. He can be reached at dan@canadaemploymentlawyer.com or through his website, canadaemploymentlawyer.com.

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metro AUTOmotive
A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH: carguide magazine.com
Wednesday, May 14, 2008

No compromise convertible

Mazda MX-5 fun for all seasons

By **B. MCLAUCHLAN**
for Metro Vancouver

The MX-5 is still one of the world's best handling cars; the PRHT simply allows you to enjoy its wonderful attributes and grin-generating dynamics year round.

Our first thought when we clapped eyes on the tin-top version of the Mazda MX-5 was a very practical one. The heady charms of warm weather open-air motoring are a given, but how will this convertible with a power, folding hardtop fare against the freeze-unfreeze-refreeze of our winter climate? How good will this two-seater really be at keeping its driver and passenger warm?

The answer is very well, as a matter of fact. All the wind-in-your-face fun is still there but even the tail end of one of the harshest winters in recent memory couldn't dampen our enthusiasm for this little charmer.

Mazda has done something quite remarkable with the design of the MX-5 PRHT (Power Retractable Hard Top) by designing a fully powered retractable metal hardtop that stores away into the exact same space that the cloth roof would — without nibbling into precious cargo space. Oh, and the whole shebang only added 40 kg to the MX-5's already slender waistline.

The two-piece top attaches with the same single latch as the standard MX-5's cloth top, and two buttons now flank the emergency flashers on the dash to raise or lower the roof. The procedure is elegant and simple. Fast too, as the whole operation takes about 12 seconds.

This brings the ham-handed soft top design of its main market rivals into even sharper focus; the Saturn Sky and its Pontiac Solstice corporate cousin still have the most frustrating convertible storage system, a 10-step program of frayed nerves, pinched fingers and silent curses.

Back to the MX-5 … the good news is that the PRHT treatment is available right across the model range, from the base GX ($28,195) through the GS ($31,350) to the top-level GT ($34,500). The better news is that it costs a very reasonable $2,195 — a lot less than a good winter beater, safety inspection and extra insurance.

Plus, the PRHT adds some nice visual touches like chrome on the headlight bezels, front grille surround and the outer door handles.

2008 Mazda MX-5 PRHT GX

- Type: Compact 2-pass roadster RWD
- Price: $31,390
- Engine: 2.0L L4 DOHC
- HP: 166 @ 6,700 rpm
- Torque: 140 @ 5,000 rpm

Highlights:

- Driving experience
- Power hardtop makes it a four-season fun house

Two buttons now flank the emergency flashers on the dash to raise or lower the roof.

On the road, the PRHT is a pure joy to drive. Power is good but not overwhelming. Handling is exceptional, the engine loves to be revved and the short-throw shifter is a pleasure to guide through the gears.

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Rating Nissan's Rogue

Driving event puts compact crossover to the test

The Nissan Rogue

Six Canadian couples, representative of the new Nissan Rogue's target market, experienced what professional auto writers take for granted recently, when they were invited to drive the compact crossover and give their impressions of it.

Their 'Rogue Weekend' began with an advanced driving course at the PMG Technologies skidpad near Montréal, and concluded with an extensive two-day test drive to Ottawa over a variety of back roads and highways in real winter conditions.

It began to snow as the group arrived PMG Technologies where they were met by professional racing driver-turned-instructor, Guy Lahaie of Trois Rivieres, Que.

Lahaie's mission: To teach the group advanced driving skills with the focus on skid control, proper use of the anti-lock braking system, and collision avoidance techniques.

As the snowfall intensified, the drivers took turns through the various courses and with each consecutive pass, their confidence and skill levels rose.

From Blaineville, the group motored to Chateau Montebello where they anticipated a challenging drive to Ottawa the next morning through spectacular Laurentian Mountains scenery.

Sean Kavanaugh of Burlington, Ont., liked the steering wheel's wide range of position settings, large print and easily identifiable switches and controls, while his wife, Allison, especially liked the heated seats and seatbacks.

Six-foot tall Ally Isted, also of Burlington, found entering and exiting the vehicle "extremely easy."

Everything important was easily within reach for Eva Choe of Toronto, who liked the seat warmers and the large, round knobs for the heating and air conditioning.

Jeff Chan of Hamilton offered kudos for "great seats and height adjustments on the non-powered front seat in his tester."

For Frank Verrilli of Toronto: "The radio controls in the steering wheel make it easier for the single driver, as well as safer."

> « *We purposefully drove over bumps to get a feel for the ride comfort level and the bumps felt almost non-existent.* »
>
> *Ally Isted of Burlington, Ont.*

"We purposely drove over bumps to get a feel for the ride comfort level," said Ally Isted, "and the bumps felt almost non-existent."

All around visibility was "quite good," said Mat Rodriguez, though the view directly rearward was restricted by the "smallish back window," a point noted by more than half of the drivers.

Tammy Chan found the brakes quick to respond, and weren't too touchy. "The steering wheel felt like a true extension of my arms," she said.

Said hubby Jeff, "the ride is slightly stiff, but I'll take that over a tall vehicle that wants to lean in the corners."

The Vehicle Dynamic Control "made a huge difference" during the car control exercises, said Monika Bujalska of Toronto. Even through slalom cones on snow and ice, "the vehicle responds remarkably to steering commands."

Oscar Valencia, who moved to Canada from Columbia nine years ago, noted that a big part of driving in Canada "is doing it in snowy conditions, and this car responded perfectly."

"When I slammed on the brakes, I was still in control and was able to steer where I wanted to go," said Allison Kavanaugh.

The continuously-variable transmission was a unanimous hit. "Totally seamless and extremely smooth," pronounced Oscar Valencia. "I'm sold," said Jeff Chan.

Tammy Chan found backseat room "nice and tall with lots of leg room. We could easily load up our kids and their three hockey bags."

Lanky Paul Constantin of Burlington found "plenty of foot room" under the front seats. "The spare tire is in a convenient place (under the cargo floor) and the bolt that holds it on can't get rusty (in that location)."

Several drivers noted that the front passenger seatback flipped forward a tad too forcefully when unlatched.

In the end, the Rogue received high marks all around, with 75 per cent of the drivers saying it exceeded their expectations, and the remaining quarter saying it met theirs.

Thirty-three per cent (four drivers) rated the Rogue as "excellent" value for money and 50 per cent viewed it as "above average." Two drivers called it "good" value.

Not only did Rogue exceed Ally Isted's expectations, especially when considering the price range in which it competes, "it also proved to me that Nissan can built a vehicle that has high appeal for women drivers" as well as for men.

FROM THE EDITORS OF CARGUIDE

Q&A with Nissan Canada president, Mark Grimm

» **CARGUIDE:** What sets the new Nissan Rogue apart from the small crossover-utility segment?
MARK GRIMM: Rogue answers consumers' demands for an expressively styled, small crossover that offers the utility they need and value they require. It looks and feels like a premium vehicle, yet Rogue's low price and high fuel efficiency make it affordable to buy and inexpensive to operate. Rogue's combination of style, versatile utility and on-road performance make it a superior choice. It offers a full complement of standard safety equipment, including ABS brakes, vehicle dynamic control (VDC) and front, side and curtain supplemental airbags. Its roomy interior and innovative utility features mean that it is ready to handle day-to-day journeys or multi-week adventures.
» **CG:** What are the vehicle's main selling points?
MG: The Rogue's exterior was designed to present an image of modern sophistication ... With its driver-focused cockpit, combined with state of the art technology, like intuitive All-Wheel Drive, Xtronic CVT, Bluetooth hands-free phone system and paddle shifters, it will shift the way customers think about small crossovers. It comes packed with a long list of standard safety features like front seat-mounted side-impact and roof-mounted curtain supplemental air bags, anti-lock braking system, stability control (VDC), traction control, tire pressure monitoring and more.
» **CG:** Where do you see this market going over the next five to 10 years?
MG: This segment has been growing rapidly and is now the third largest segment in the market. This shows a clear direction in consumer demand. The available choices to satisfy that need will probably expand and whether they are all crossovers or take some other form is what makes this business exciting.

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Decor tips on the go

French carmaker Citroën offers design ideas

If you're looking for some inspiration to redesign your home, it might be worth taking a few pointers from the car on your own drive.

French automaker Citroën, the company that brought you the $200,00 designer garage for its executive C6 has branched out into interior design with its new Paris show, C_Chic, at the company's Champs-Elysées brand centre.

Displayed on the sensational revolving platforms of the centre's cavernous rotunda are three room installations designed to echo the creative styling cues of Citroën's latest model, the new C5, to create the ultimate automotive-inspired apartment.

Using renowned designer style brands such as Louis Vuitton, Bisazza and Aquamass, the C_Chic's display rooms have been created to give C5 owners (and everyone else) inspiration for some truly luxurious home furnishing ideas.

With a model living room, bathroom and bedroom, the C5 show-apartment features sophisticated styling with premium and luxurious materials throughout such as a sumptuous leather sofa in the 'Lounge' themed living room, and expensive ceramics and spot lighting in the bright and minimalist bathroom.

The black and chrome 'Force Latine' design of the bedroom provides a refined sleeping space with its dark and brooding colour palette.

Since it opened in 2007, the brand centre has welcomed more than a million visitors, who come to learn more about one of France's most beloved and iconic companies … as well as picking up some home decorating tips.

Using renowned designer style brands such as Louis Vuitton, Bisazza and Aquamass, the C_Chic display rooms have been created to give C5 owners (and everyone else) inspiration for some truly luxurious home furnishing ideas.

Subaru

2009 Forester prices announced

MODEL Mississauga-based Subaru Canada Inc. has set a $25,795 to $34,895 price range for its new third-generation 2009 Forester model, now appearing in showrooms across the country.

Lower than its predecessor, the new Forester sits on a longer new platform that improves ride as well as interior space, especially rear seat legroom.

The well-equipped 'base' Forester 2.5X has a manufacturer's suggested retail price of $25,795 when fitted with the standard manual transmission — that's $1,200 less than the '08 model. Starting at $27,995, the Forester 2.5X Touring model is $1,000 less than before. The step-up 2.5X Limited is equipped with extra features yet at $32,395 starts at $3,700 less than the previous version. And the loaded Forester 2.5XT Limited retails for $34,895 — a whopping $4,100 less than the model it replaces.

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One&Only luxury resorts can now boast their very own line of espadrilles by revered designer Christian Louboutin. The $366 shoes will be sold at their glamourous beach properties in Mauritius, the Bahamas, Mexico, Dubai and the Maldives. METRO WORLD NEWS

Travel back to the revolution

Old English town held reins to industry in 1800s

By **EMMA E FORREST**
Metro World News

If you have ever wondered what it would have been like to live in Britain during the Industrial Revolution, then visit Blists Hill Victorian Town in Shropshire, England.

You can truly step back in time at Blists Hill. It's just one of nine museums in the Ironbridge area — including the Jackfield Tile Museum, Coalport China Museum, Museum of Iron and the Iron Bridge itself, the world's first cast iron bridge, built in 1779 over the River Severn — that showcase the best of the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Located in the heart of England, the area is considered so historically important that it is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Each building in the Victorian town dates from the 1800s and has been carefully transported to the village and reconstructed brick by brick to recreate a small industrial town toward the end of Queen Victoria's reign.

Guides in costume and in character breathe life into these immaculately recreated shops, workplaces and homes, offering an astounding insight into what life was like more than 100 years ago.

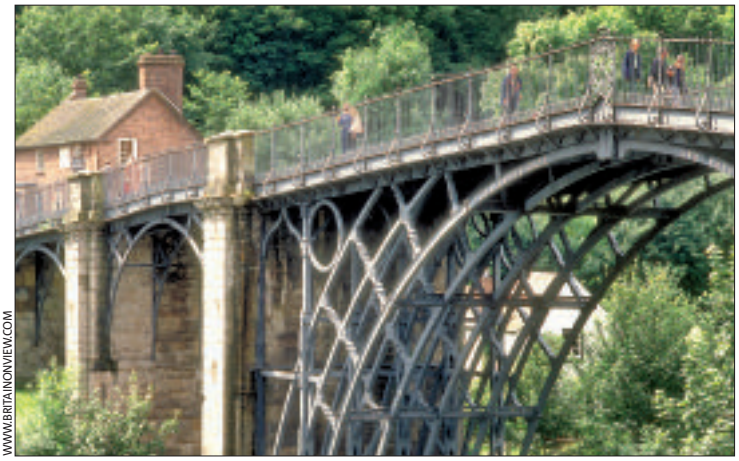
Turn your pounds into shillings in the Victorian Lloyds bank and leave contemporary England behind. Treat yourself to a bag of candy from the sweet shop, buy some freshly baked bread and see what's on offer in the grocers, chemist, candle makers and printers for all your turn of the century needs.

At lunchtime, you can send your children off to the school, where they will be taught a lesson, Victorian-style, with chalk and blackboard, by a strict and smartly-dressed head teacher. Meanwhile, you can nip off for a pint of traditional ale in the wood-panelled Victorian pub, where the locals gather round the piano for an old-fashioned singalong.

If you want you can even be Victorian and actively participate in the experience. Enrol in the blacksmithing course — the wrought iron works at Blists Hill is the only working iron foundry in Europe — and you'll be taught how to heat iron and steel until it is white hot before hammering it into shape on the anvil. Using traditional blacksmithing skills you'll be taught how to make objects including a fire poker, leaf key ring and coat hook. It's serious work, though, with amateur blacksmiths feeling the heat and developing giant blisters on their hands as they hammer repeatedly at the iron rod to knock it into shape.

Despite the hard labour, it's a course people find creative, inspiring and rewarding. As most of us urban types don't actually get to make anything after school age — we just buy things then throw them away — most people find it satisfying to put time into producing something useful and durable in the blacksmithing course.

And with the world's current problems of environmental sustainability in mind, it's also one of the interesting things about visiting Blists Hill, and learning about how the Victorians lived.



WWW.BRITAINONVIEW.COM

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The Iron Bridge was first opened in 1781. Left, visitors walk across the bridge, and right, a view of the underside.

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Left, blacksmithing at Blists Hill. Right, the Iron Bridge spans the Severn Gorge at dusk.

need to know

» Blacksmithing Experience Days cost £100 (about $200 Cdn) per person including all materials, a pub lunch and refreshments. Visit *ironbridge.org.uk*.

» Where to stay: The White Hart, Ironbridge. A spacious pub with stylish contemporary décor. For more, go to *thewhitehartironbridge.com*.

» Where to eat: The Drapers Hall, Shrewsbury. A staggering black and white building built in 1576 as a meeting place for the local guild of drapers merchants. See *shrewsburydrapers.org.uk*. METRO WORLD NEWS

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Soccer-mad kids will get the chance to learn from Chelsea's coaches at Forte Village Resort in Sardinia this summer. From May to September, coaches from the English Premier League side will teach children aged 4-13 while their parents languish round the pool. Visit *www.ghotw.com*.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mix volunteer work with travel

Opportunities to help others while on holiday

THE TRAVEL JUNKIE
JULIA DIMON
www.thetraveljunkie.ca

In our world of beaten-track travel, many tourists are looking for alternative holiday experiences where they can learn about local culture while giving back. "Volun-tourism," as it is now known, is a growing trend that blends volunteer work with travel. It's a chance for foreigners to pitch in, get their hands dirty and help the local community while on holiday.

No matter what your interest, there are volunteer opportunities in all parts of the world. From environmental protection to animal rights, there's something for everyone.

Here are a few interesting opportunities to earn some Karma credits:

JULIA DIMON/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

A growing number of tourists interested in giving back to the local community are opting for volunteer-based holidays.

COMMUNITY CARE

Global Volunteers is a non-profit, non-religious organization specializing in short-term volunteer placements across 21 countries. Anyone can participate in their projects, regardless of skill or profession. Care for orphaned children in Romania, build playgrounds in Jamaica, help the elderly in the Cook Islands or work on an organic coffee co-operative in Costa Rica. Visit *www.globalvolunteers.org.*

ANIMAL AID

PRETOMA, a non-governmental organization (NGO), offers volunteer placements aimed at protecting endangered sea turtles. From June to December, along the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, tourists can take part in hands-on conservation programs that monitor and secure turtle nesting beaches. Prices range from $330 a week to $970 a month (they recommend at least two weeks), with accommodations in cabins, hotels or homestays. Visit *www.tortugamarina.org*

HANDS-ON

Grab your hammer and tool belt! Habitat for Humanity's "global village" program has volunteers labouring to build affordable housing for disadvantaged people around the world. Teams of volunteers are sent on trips of one to three weeks long. Fees (which include food, accommodation and ground transportation) vary according to location. From Paraguay to Tajikistan, Cambodia to our own Canadian backyards, this non-profit initiative is creating change, one nail at a time. Apply online at *www.habitat.ca.*

CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Offering experiences from two to 12 weeks, Cross-Cultural Solutions places volunteers in a variety of programs: promote female empowerment in rural Tanzania, work with kids in Morocco or teach English in China. According to their website, their philosophy of sustainability ensures that 90 per cent of the fees go to the volunteer program, not to exorbitant overhead costs. Visit *www.crossculturalsolutions.org*

Freelance writer Julia Dimon is editor of The Travel Junkie and host of Word Travels, a new reality TV-series to be broadcast on OLN in 2008. Contact her at www.thetraveljunkie.ca.

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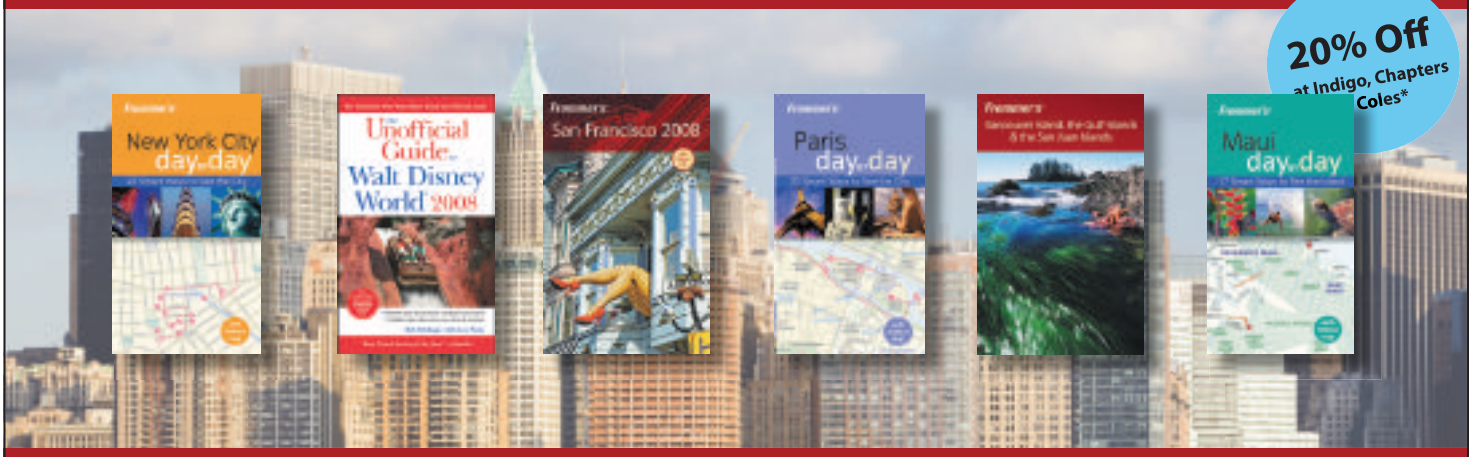

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entertainment

Megan Mullally, left, has signed on to play Alicia Silverstone's mom in ABC's new fall comedy Bad Mother's Handbook.
TVGUIDE.COM

legal

Farina apologizes for gun arrest

PEOPLE Dennis Farina has issued a public apology following his arrest for felony weapons possession charges, imdb.com reports.

The actor was arrested at Los Angeles International Airport on Sunday morning after a loaded gun was found in his briefcase. He was released on Sunday night after posting $35,000 US bail.

"I apologize to anyone and everyone that I have caused any embarrassment or inconvenience to," Farina said. "It is my own stupidity to find myself in this ... situation." METRO NEWS SERVICES

more online

» For coverage of last night's episode of American Idol, go to metronews.ca.

Bye bye bachelorhood

Grant's fiancée wins him over by being herself

By SANDY CAETANO
for Metro Vancouver

The age-old advice of just being yourself certainly worked in the case of Shayne Dahl Lamas.

The 22-year-old actress captured the heart of Matt Grant, the bachelor on The Bachelor: London Calling, and the couple are now engaged.

"She's just so kind and caring and considerate about all her friends and family — she's also very confident and strong herself," said Grant, a global financier from London. "It's quite rare in Britain to have that balance without being arrogant and cocky and full of yourself."

Unlike the last season of The Bachelor, where the man looking for love ended up not choosing anyone, this season's suitor popped the question to his special lady.

Grant proposed to Lamas on Monday night's finale of the reality show with a 2.85-carat Tacori platinum and diamond eternity ring (an estimated value of $60,000 US) — and she said yes.

All throughout The Bachelor: London Calling, Grant, the first-ever British Bachelor has let the world know he's crazy about American women.

Lamas, the daughter of actor Lorenzo Lamas, proved to Grant she was the real deal by being herself every moment they were together, be it alone or surrounded by the other women vying for a piece of his heart. The 22-year-old actress also endured a dirty and physical game of rugby with the other contestants in the bid to gain his love.

CITYTV PHOTOS
Shayne Dahl Lamas and Matt Grant.

So what was it that caught her eye besides Grant's looks and charm?

"First of all he's handsome, and if you ever are in his presence his aura and his presence is just unbelievable, he's just amazing," said Lamas. "Just being in the same room with him, I mean his friends even say the same thing – and he's very tall, too (6-foot-5), that's great for short women because they can wear high heels."

The couple plans on travelling a bit, and having homes in Los Angeles and in London, since they each have family in both places.

As for a wedding date, nothing has been set. Grant and Lamas want to spend some time getting to know each other better before tying the knot.

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Welcome to the killing fields

IDIOT BOX
RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

BRING OUT YOUR DEAD: The current TV season is ringing down, and like any decent Shakespeare play, the stage is littered with bodies. The networks are trying to lighten the tone of this downbeat little drama by announcing new shows and renewals at the same time, but there's no denying that it's a dismal end to a dispiriting year, and that there are some people (well, just me, probably) who think that they'd do just as well to nuke their whole primetime schedules and start all over again with a kind of broadcast year zero.

ABC leads the list this year with an impressive body count, tallied up conveniently by the Los Angeles Times. There's a lot of what you'd expect — Cavemen is gone, as is Carpoolers, Big Shots, October Road and Miss Guided. Cashmere Mafia, Women's Murder Club and Men In Trees are also among the fallen, as is — cue shock chords — Oprah's Big Give, which was dropped at the request of Oprah Winfrey herself. "We loved that show and absolutely would have loved to bring it back," ABC entertainment president Steve McPherson told the Hollywood Reporter. "But it was something (Oprah) didn't want to do."

The network is taking Scrubs over from NBC, and says they have 17 new pilots in development for midseason launch, which promises to make September on ABC look pretty quiet, but it may turn out that other networks are going to make an equally soft start on the fall TV season.

ABC's casualty list is as large as Fox and CBS combined, neither of which contain many surprises, either, except for Fox's axing of Back To You, the newsroom comedy starring Kelsey Grammar and Patricia Heaton.

Grammar, it turns out, had to find out about his show's termination from Nikki Finke's L.A. Weekly blog, and posed with an impromptu memorial erected by fans outside Fox's offices, though Finke reported that CBS is rumoured to be interested in picking up the show.

Canterbury's Law, New Amsterdam and The Return Of Jezebel James are gone at Fox, while CBS has done a higher profile housecleaning, killing off Jericho — at last — as well as Shark, Moonlight, Cane and Welcome To The Captain, the latter show bearing the not-so-unusual distinction of being a program I've never heard of until now.

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

The series Oprah's Big Give was dropped at the request of Oprah Winfrey herself.

NBC has cut Las Vegas and Journeyman from its schedule, and finally confirmed that they can't rebuild Bionic Woman, and the CW has dropped Girlfriends and Aliens In America. Britney Spears' well-publicized cameos on How I Met Your Mother is apparently a big reason for the show's renewal, and among the shows reprieved for another year are titles like Boston Legal, Rules Of Engagement, The New Adventures Of Old Christine and According To Jim, which is proof of life after death, if nothing else.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera. He walked 47 miles of barbed wire and has a cobra snake for a necktie.

theatre

August, Xanadu nab critic awards

WINNERS Pulitzer Prize-winning play August: Osage County and musicals Young Frankenstein and Xanadu nabbed the top Outer Critics Circle awards Monday ahead of U.S. theatre's top honours, the Tonys.

Anna D. Shapiro, who directed August: Osage County, picked up the award for outstanding director of a play, and the production's Deanna Dunagan won outstanding actress in a play.

The play, which won author Tracy Lett the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for drama, tells the story of the Westons, a large extended clan that comes together at their Oklahoma homestead when the alcoholic patriarch disappears. It opened on Broadway in December after a hit run in Chicago.

The Outer Critics Circle is made up of journalists covering New York theatre. They voted for 23 awards, to be presented on May 22.

REUTERS

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metro life panel

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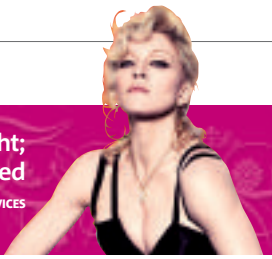
music

The bestselling CDs on Amazon.ca are: 1. Hard Candy, Madonna, right; 2. Third, Portishead; 3. The Reminder, Feist; 4. Snacktime, Barenaked Ladies; 5. Once Soundtrack, Various Artists. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Exclaim! takes show on road

Tour showcases independent rock

By **AMANDA B. HAUPT**
for Metro Vancouver

Tokyo Police Club headline the Exclaim! Anniversary Tour at The Plaza Club tomorrow and Friday.

UNIVERSAL MUSIC PHOTO

Anyone doubting Canadian music these days should look no further than the Exclaim! 16th Anniversary Tour for evidence that our homegrown independent music scene is thriving and shows no sign of slowing down.

The cross-country tour is underway with Tokyo Police Club — riding high as one of Canada's top indie groups — headlining along with supporting acts Attack In Black and Smoosh.

Ian Danzig, founder of Exclaim! — the free monthly magazine focusing on Canadian and international independent music — shared his thoughts with Metro recently on the success of the publication and tour. Danzig chooses artists for the tour based on one simple factor: "Same way we choose the music that we write about in Exclaim!, which is music that we love, stuff that turns us on."

Numerous successful independent bands have graced national stages on previous tours, including Arcade Fire and DJ Champion. Danzig equates Tokyo Police Club to Broken Social Scene. "The very first EP from Tokyo that came into our office, we immediately were unbelievably impressed … and we were immediately covering them so they're a band that was always on our radar to have on the tour, well before the buzz really built up."

Tokyo Police Club's debut full-length effort, Elephant Shell, has felt long-awaited to their fans, but as drummer Greg Alsop points out the band wanted to "work the EP (2006's A Lesson in Crime) as much as possible.

"None of us had really expected that the EP would go to the lengths that it did," he says. "We were able to tour off it for awhile, more people kept discovering it and we were able to keep gaining opportunities off it. We were never able to really sit down and devote the time that we felt we needed to writing, since we were on the road all the time."

Elephant Shell is an infectious record that continues Tokyo's tradition of songs sprinting to the finish line while incorporating hand claps and daring listeners to sit still.

Consisting of Alsop, guitarist Josh Hook, Dave Monks on bass and vocals, and Graham Wright on keys and vocals, the band "takes everything on a song-by-song basis." Alsop admits "as a whole collective the album ends up turning out different than the EPs, but not really through a conscious decision."

When asked if Tokyo is happy with the end result, the drummer enthuses, "Yeah, very, we're really proud of it actually. It took a while to get there and a lot of hard work, but yeah we're really pleased with the result and hope other people are as well."

metro TOP5IVE

Grunge acts:

1. Nirvana
2. Pearl Jam
3. Soundgarden
4. Alice In Chains
5. Smashing Pumpkins

— Metro News Services

Goldfrapp ambivalent about Madonna

They are credited with influencing the fashion style of Madonna but British electronica band Goldfrapp don't have much time for the pop diva or other big acts they will be playing with this summer.

Alison Goldfrapp and Will Gregory, whose fourth CD Seventh Tree dropped in February, will share big stages at two outdoor U.K. music festivals with hip-hop mogul Jay-Z and Madonna.

"I think her fearlessness is amazing but I don't have particularly any admiration for her work," Goldfrapp told Reuters. On Sunday, the group — acclaimed for their breadth of musical styles that canvas anything from pop to dance to glam rock — kick off a tour of European concerts and summer festivals starting at BBC's Radio 1 music festival, where Madonna is also performing.

Goldfrapp will also be mixing with Jay-Z at Glastonbury, which has been criticized for straying from its roots by featuring the rapper as one of its top acts.

"People don't want it to become Americanized or kind of different, where you can't just wander around any more sort of half-naked with mud over you. I can see, understand that," Goldfrapp said about world's biggest open-air music and arts festival, which she dubbed "an English institution." REUTERS

EMI MUSIC PHOTO

Alison Goldfrapp

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CBS is expected to announce tomorrow that it has ordered 22 more episodes of The New Adventures Of Old Christine, the two-year-old comedy that's already netted star Julia Louis-Dreyfus, right, an Emmy, according to a key insider.

EW.COM

new series

Seacrest helps Momma's Boy

Seacrest

TV Mothers will get to choose brides for their sons on a new reality series from NBC and American Idol host Ryan Seacrest.

In Momma's Boy, a group of "controlling mothers," their eligible "complacent sons" and several brides-to-be live together under one roof. Some of the potential brides are "nice girls" while others, as the press release states, "might not be as appealing to the mothers."

casting

Rapaport locks up Prison Break role

TV Michael Rapaport has landed a role in Prison Break.

The actor is joining the drama as a series regular for its fourth season. He will play a government agent who has an interesting offer for Michael Scofield (Wentworth Miller) and his brother, death-row inmate Lincoln Burrows (Dominic Purcell). REUTERS

» going out

7 p.m. New Music West 2008, featuring performances by P. Austin, Green-Tara, Politic Live and more. At The Plaza Club, 881 Granville St. Info: *newmusicwest.com*.

8 p.m. The Kills, perform with special guests The Childballads. At Richard's on Richards, 1036 Richards St. Tix: $17.50. Info: *richardsonrichards.com*.

8:30 p.m. Pawnshop Diamond, the ultimate rock /fold/punk indie band performs live. At Oasis Lounge, 1240 Thurlow St. Tix: $5. Info: *oasisvancouver.com*.

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Boxers steak out Gotham

HOLLYWOOD NORTH

ROBERT FALCONER
robert.falconer@metronews.ca

It was a championship night at Gotham Steakhouse and Cocktail Bar last Tuesday, as **Lennox Lewis** and **Sugar Ray Leonard** dined together. Word is the boxing legends ordered enormous steaks almost as big as themselves. It should be noted that fellow pugilist — and sometimes director — **Uwe Boll** did not join his prize-fighting comrades; then again, word has it Boll only fights with film critics and Hollywood celebrities.

PANETTIERE AND FAMILY DESCEND ON BRIX: Also last week, over at Brix Restaurant and Wine Bar, **Hayden Panettiere** (**Heroes**) and her family dined on local B.C. cuisine in the glass-covered outdoor courtyard. Panettiere is here shooting **I Love You Beth Cooper**, a comedy in which a nerdy valedictorian proclaims his love for the hottest and most popular girl in school — Beth Cooper (Panettiere) — during his graduation speech, only to find Beth at his doorstep that very same day willing to show him the best night of his life.

CAPRICA'S CAST TAKES SHAPE: **Esai Morales** — who previously starred on CBS' ill-fated series **Jericho** — will be heading for Vancouver soon. Morales is the second actor to join the cast of SCI-FI Channel's **Battlestar Galactica** prequel series, **Caprica**, which kicks off production soon. Set 50 years before the events portrayed in Galactica, Caprica follows two rival families — the Greystones and the Adamas — as they grow, compete and thrive in the vibrant world of the 12 Colonies, where artificial intelligence is evolving. Morales will portray the integrity-laden, yet ruthless Joseph Adama, father of William Adama, the future admiral of the Battlestar Galactica.

Paula Malcomson (who ironically appeared in **Steven Spielberg**'s **Artificial Intelligence: AI**) has also been cast in Caprica as the female lead, Amanda Graystone. The hard-edged Malcomson previously appeared on ABC's **Lost**, and also in HBO's acerbic Western **Deadwood**, where she played a reformed prostitute. The actress has also appeared in films such as **Tombstone** and **The Green Mile**.

Robert Falconer is a writer specializing in media communications, entertainment journalism and creative arts. A knowledgeable disciple of film and television, he is the founder and executive editor of CinemaSpy.ca

Lennox Lewis
GETTY IMAGES

Hayden Panettiere
GETTY IMAGES

5/14/08

	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	22 Minutes	Just-Gags	Little Mosque	Sophie	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 CH	E! News	The Insider	Deal or No Deal (N) (CC)				Stunt Stars "Stunt School"		News (N)
	254	-	8 M	Law & Order: SVU		Mandarin News		Cantonese News (N)		Punjabi News (In Punjabi N)		South Park
	250	321	9 CTV	eTalk (CC)	Hollywood	Criminal Minds "Tabula Rasa"		American Idol (CC)		CSI: NY "Taxi" (N) (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	10 OMNI	According-Jim	The Simpsons	Coach (CC)	Coach (CC)	The Standard	Ustat (CC)	Cold Case (CC)		New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom ★★★ (1984) Harrison Ford. (CC)					Family Guy	News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	Friends (CC)	Wife Swap "Coste/Ives" (N)		Supernanny (N) (CC)		Law & Order (N) (CC)		News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	America's Next Top Model		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Reviews
	-	-	14 CW	'70s Show	'70s Show	America's Next Top Model		Farmer Wants a Wife (N)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Price Is Right Spectacular		Criminal Minds "Tabula Rasa"		CSI: NY "Taxi" (N) (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Deal or No Deal (N) (CC)				Law & Order (N) (CC)		News (N)
	602	568	19 W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Shopping	Style by Jury	Smart Cookies	Stuck	Maxed Out	Style by Jury	Style by Jury
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Wife Swap "Coste/Ives" (N)		Supernanny (N) (CC)		Boston Legal (N) (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Scrubs (CC)	Living Out Loud ★★ (1998) Holly Hunter, Danny DeVito.				Will & Grace	Scrubs (CC)	Seinfeld
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	Field Guide	Secrets of the Dead (N)		The Adirondacks (N) (CC)				My Music-60s
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	'Til Death	Back to You	American Idol (CC)		News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	29 PBS	The Adirondacks (N) (CC)				Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Secrets of the Dead	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Cheers (CC)	South Park	Comics Un.	Half & Half	Entertainment	The Insider	Paid Program
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	America's Next Top Model		Farmer Wants a Wife (N)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	38 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	57 WPX	CW11 News at Ten		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	Frasier (CC)	George Lopez	Odd Couple
	199	311	76 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		Inside Edition	Paradise Hotel 2		Late Late
news	502	390	23 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Nefertiti (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	NHL Hockey	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Boxing Wednesday Night Fights. (Same-day Tape) (CC)				SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Word Travels	Globe Guides	Pilot Guides (CC)		Don't Forget Your Passport		Ed's Up (CC)	Angry Planet	The Rig: Oil
	410	403	54 SCR	NBA Basketball: West Semifinal -- Jazz at Lakers				Score Update		Score Update		Score Update
	417	406	55 SC	Unique Whips		Pinks	Pass Time	Countdown to All-Star		NASCAR All-Star '08		Unique Whips
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol Alemán		Gol TV News		American Soccer		Gol TV News		Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Mon. Warriors	Futurama	Shadow	Falcon Beach (CC)		Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	George	Road Runner	Scooby-Doo	Futurama	Tripping-Rift	Tripping-Rift	Chicken	Chicken	Tripping-Rift
	557	541	51 FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	56 TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Beren. Bears	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Crazy Quilt	Wee 3 (CC)	The Bittles	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Lemur Street	Undersea	What the Ancients Did for Us		Ultimate Factories "Ferrari"		In Korea with Norm Christie		Paris Stories
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Totally "Emerson Drive"		Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Ed (CC)
	570	580	24 MM	PunchMuch		Punk'd (CC)	Totally Untrue	The O.C. "The Outsider"		Gone Wild	Gone Wild	Spotlight
	600	564	26 H&G	Unsellable	Buy Me (N)	Open House	Secrets Sell	Hid Potential	House Worth?	Property	City	Unsellable
	615	520	61 A&E	CSI: Miami "Slow Burn"		CSI: Miami "Stalkerazzi"		CSI: Miami (CC)		CSI: Miami "Blood Moon"		CSI: Miami
	628	584	62 SPKE	The Ultimate Fighter (N)		Ways to Die	Ways to Die	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Star Trek: Voyager "Parallax"		Deep Space 9
	521	560	64 TLC	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate
	616	522	69 SHO	ReGenesis "Haze" (CC)		Da Vinci's Inquest (CC)		Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Life "A Civil War" (CC)		House (CC)
	620	523	70 BVO	True Meaning	Abbas in Iran	Law & Order "Doubles" (CC)		Without a Trace "The Source"		Mi Vida Loca ★★ (1993) Angel Aviles. (CC)		
	601	562	71 SLC	Trading Spouses		X-Weighted		How to Find a Husband (CC)		Trading Spouses		Trading Sp
	520	505	72 DIS	Mayday "Gimli Glider" (N)		Daily Planet		MythBusters Ninjas. (CC)		Really Big Things		Mayday
	522	506	74 HIS	JAG (DVS)		Re-Inventors	Legends	Jerusalem 1948: A War		Crime Stories (CC)		JAG (DVS)
	627	528	75 SPC	Supernatural (CC)		Stargate SG-1 "Last Stand"		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Star Trek: Enterprise (CC)		Alias (CC)
	294	650	97 TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star ★★ (2003)		
	619	525	98 TROP	TV Made	Ad Persuasion	ET Canada	What	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)	Family Guy
	603	561	99 FN	Dinner	Glutton	Challenge "Princess Cakes"		Iron Chef America (CC)		Dinner	Glutton	Challenge
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	Reno 911!	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	In the Land of Women ★★ (2007) (CC)			(:40) The Pursuit of Happyness ★★★ (2006) Will Smith. (CC)				(:40) In the Land of Women	
	581	566	101 MTV	The Real World (N) (CC)		MTV Live (CC)		The Real World (CC)		The Real World (CC)		MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Frank Sinatra Memorial (N)		Frank Sinatra With Friends		Jeeves and Wooster (CC)		Sorry!	No Place Like	Recreat. Eden
	-	-	105 MUL	The Land	Daughters	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Hola Que Tal		Patrol World

critics' corner

Boston Legal
Imagine: his name on the door of the Oval Office. In this new episode, some political bigwigs approach Denny — Denny Crane! — about running for president. You can stop shuddering now; Denny (William Shatner) is fictional, remember? Jerry (Christian Clemenson) is asked to defend an ex (Rachelle Lefevre) accused of prostitution, and Carl and Shirley (John Larroquette, Candice Bergen) represent a woman suing for the right to become a Catholic priest. 10 PM on ABC

The Adirondacks
It's a state park, but it's home to more than wildlife. More than 100,000 people live in New York's Adirondack Park year round, and about half its 6 million acres are privately owned. This new special offers an armchair tour of this unique mountain region and those who call it home, from the loggers and innkeepers whose livelihood it provides and the artists it inspires to the athletes training at the Olympic Village. And did we mention the spectacular scenery? 7 PM on PBS

celebritybuzz

Wedding bells for Cynthia?

GETTY IMAGES

Sex And The City: The Movie star Cynthia Nixon wants to wed her partner Christine Marinoni – because gay weddings are "rebellious," imdb.com reports. The actress began dating Marinoni in 2004, and rumours surfaced last month the pair would marry later this year in a low key ceremony. But Nixon, 42, admits she's never been keen on marriage in the past – although she would consider wedding Marioni because it would be an act of rebellion. She says, "It (marriage) is something my girlfriend is interested in and it was not something my boyfriend (Danny Mozer, with whom she split after 15 years together) ever was. I think that to get married to her would be a little act of rebellion. It's like if you've never had the vote and then you get it you're going to run out there and vote. I always avoided marriage in the past and was very wary of it. I felt like it was potentially a trap. People sometimes want the party, the gifts, and the public celebration of this big love – they're excited about that rather than the life commitment. So I always stayed clear of it."

Metro News Services

Beyoncé's weight gain spurs pregnancy rumours

GETTY IMAGES

Beyoncé Knowles, who still won't confirm her April 4 wedding to Jay-Z, is also keeping quiet about whether or not she is pregnant, PageSix.com reports. Friends of the tight-lipped newlyweds say the songbird is expecting the couple's first child. "She has gained a lot of pregnancy weight," a source said.

A rep for Knowles said, "I don't know if she's pregnant. Let me perform an ultrasound and get back to you."

Metro News Services

Tony, Jessica split?

GETTY IMAGES

According to starmagazine.com, while partying with several Eastern Illinois alumni on the weekend, Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo revealed he and Jessica Simpson are on the outs, reports Chicago gossip blog These Boots Are Made for Stalking.

"He told us they broke up and that was that," Romo's pal told the blog.

Romo made the most of his boys' weekend – from seeing a Chicago Cubs game to boozing at local hotspots.

Metro News Services

Ashlee, Pete to tie knot on Saturday

GETTY IMAGES

Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz will wed on Saturday, according to the latest U.S. reports, says imdb.com. The pop couple was rumoured to be planning a ceremony for this Friday, but now Us Weekly magazine claims Simpson will become Mrs. Wentz on Saturday. The location, time and all other details are being kept a closely-guarded secret. A source close to the pair tells the publication, "Proper invites have not been sent out but guests have been given a save-the-date notice." A rehearsal dinner, for "family and close friends only," will take place on Friday. The couple announced their engagement in April and Simpson is rumoured to be pregnant with her fiance's child.

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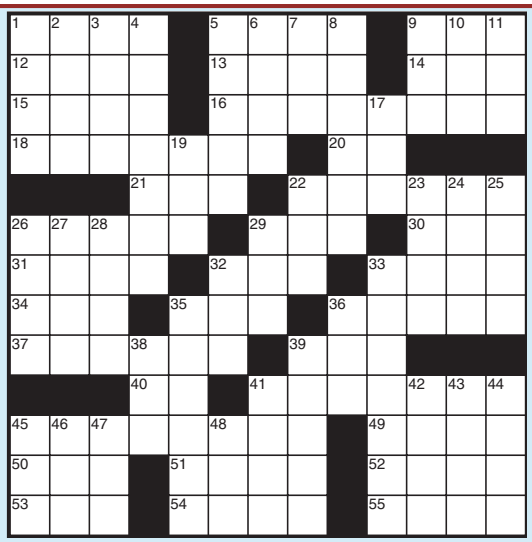

down »

1 Campus area
2 Reliable
3 Inventor's spark
4 Yanking
5 Pine for
6 Flight routes
7 Tool set
8 Work with clay
9 Come down with
10 Hole in one
11 School of dolphins
17 Cyberspace letters
19 Sister of Helios
22 Worthless coin
23 Frizzy coif
24 Big hunk
25 Vandals
26 Furtive sound
27 Pinocchio, e.g.
28 She taught in Siam
29 — kwon do
32 Slalom run
33 Ice cream choices
35 Most extreme
36 — — step further
38 Bossie's chew
39 Police raids
41 Surface layer
42 Name in essays
43 In case
44 Blouse part
45 Unopened flower
46 Mormon predecessor
47 Untrained, as recruits
48 Billiard stick

across »

1 Ear cleaner (hyph.)
5 Talks on and on
9 Fence flaw
12 Karachi language
13 Mr. Sevareid
14 Environmental prefix
15 "The Mammoth Hunters" writer
16 Set in motion
18 New car sources
20 — -cal
21 Free electron
22 Make ripples
26 Organizes
29 Three-year-old
30 Kind of vaccine
31 Carry a tune
32 Paris thirst-quencher
33 Ollie's pal
34 — Diego Chargers
35 Capitalize on
36 Dollops
37 Pamphlets
39 Glamorous wrap
40 Doubtful answer
41 In a diplomatic way
45 Prickly weeds
49 Dairy-case buy
50 Hagen of "The Other"
51 Interview wear
52 Take a chance
53 Lawn cover?
54 Gymnasts' goals
55 Jade

previous answer

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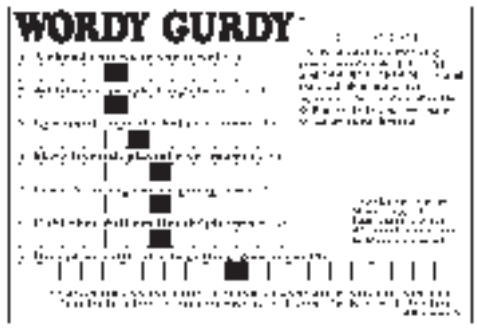

HOROSCOPE

ARIES | March 21-April 20
Surprising news comes by mail. Prepare for allergies to flare up. You might think it's too late for forgiveness.

TAURUS | April 21-May 21
A senior's safety measures should be updated. Expect a price change – buy now. Do not walk through dark places by yourself.

GEMINI | May 22-June 21
A dispute will lead the way to an agreement. Look into discovering how to prosper. Refuse to be a mediator on a proposal.

CANCER | June 22-July 22
A disgraced visitor has much to say. A man causes confusion to burst out. A moody dictator limits time spent in contemplation.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 23
Others will need a lesson in compassion. Whining about chores takes up too much energy. Someone fails to show up when needed.

VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Get your emotions under control. Arrogance causes feelings of inadequacy. Get down to basics with an impractical negotiator.

LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23
Provide sanity for an oblivious person. A friend has guilt about a crisis. Better news comes about finances.

SCORPIO | Oct. 24- Nov. 22
Frankness is the best approach in a love affair. Have a nap, if you get the chance. Dreadful dreams lead to a thorny dilemma.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23- Dec. 21
Look before you leap in your love life. Someone opens your eyes to a paradigm shift. Opportunities will give you a new way of life.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
A stressful ruling will create resentment. Worry about a job can be reduced by consultation. Being fond of someone will amaze you.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Exhaustion will result if you don't let up. Less is more in a relationship. Don't stubbornly insist on following orders.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Emotional difficulties will persist if someone else calls the shots. A sweet rascal spends money like crazy.

AVATAR VENUS

	2			9		3		4
			2		1		7	6
	7	2			3		1	
			5		2			
	9		4			8	3	
9	6		8		7			
4		5		2			8	3

instructions »

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time »

Under 13 minutes	Genius
13-17 minutes	Scholar
17-21	Smart
21-25	Pretty good
More than 25	Keep practising

previous answer

3	6	7	1	4	2	5	9	8
5	4	9	7	3	8	2	1	6
2	8	1	5	6	9	4	7	3
8	3	6	4	2	1	7	5	9
4	9	2	3	5	7	8	6	1
7	1	5	8	9	6	3	2	4
1	7	3	6	8	5	9	4	2
9	5	8	2	1	4	6	3	7
6	2	4	9	7	3	1	8	5

This Day IN HISTORY

May 14, 1913: New York Governor William Sulzer approves the charter for the Rockefeller Foundation, which begins operations with a $100 million donation from John D. Rockefeller.

May 14, 1925: Virginia Woolf's novel Mrs Dalloway is published.

May 14, 1939: Lina Medina becomes the world's youngest confirmed mother in medical history at the age of five.

Metro News Service

Vancouver weather

The Weather Network
theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
40%				
Cloudy. 14°	Variable. Low 9°	Partly cloudy. 17°/ 9°	Sunny. 19°/ 10°	Sunny. 21°/ 13°

Temperature
Normals
High: 16.1°
Low: 7.8°

Records
High: 25°/1973
Low: 2.8°/1938

Sunrise: 5:30 a.m.
Sunset: 8:48 p.m.
Moonset: 3:11 a.m.
Moonrise: 3:34 p.m.

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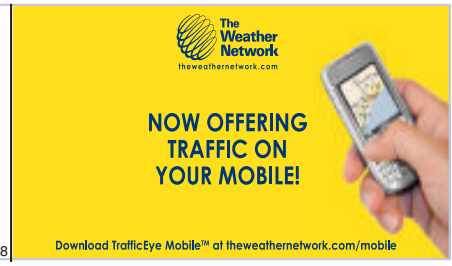

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MacPHERSON WALK

Vibrant South Burnaby Living

FINAL RELEASE 60% SOLD LAST WEEKEND!
THIS IS YOUR LAST OPPORTUNITY TO OWN

Don't Miss Out at South Burnaby's Most Desirable New Residential Community

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CONVENIENT LOCATION Steps from Royal Oak SkyTrain, close to Metrotown, schools and parks

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One bedrooms start from $249,900
Two bedrooms start from $344,900
Three bedrooms starting from $469,900
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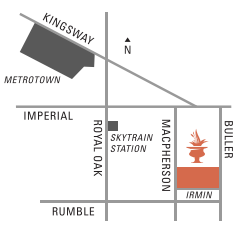
with 2-car private garages also available



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